

10/21/96

Make international connections.

177-100-2727



THE JERUSALEM POST

VOLUME LXIII, NUMBER 19202

FRIDAY, FEBRUARY 16, 1996 • SHVAT 26, 5756 • RAMADAN 27, 1416

NIS 6.00 (EILAT NIS 5.10)

JORDAN 3 Days \$190

EGYPT 4 Days \$89 see last page

Midnight Express bus

03-5653696 (24 hours)

MAZADA TOURS

January COL rises 0.9%

Workers to receive 2.4% increment

MICHAL YUDELMAN and Ilin

THE Consumer Price Index rose 0.9 percent in January, the Central Bureau of Statistics announced yesterday. The increase was a relatively high percentage, especially compared with last year, when the monthly increase was just 0.2%. The January 1994 increase was 0.7%.

Housing costs, up 1.5%, and health fees, up 2.3%, contributed the most to the increase. However, the price of fruits and vegetables was down an average of 3.5%, as were clothing and footwear, down 4.2%. Transportation and communications were up, with the increase in the price of gasoline boosting transportation costs 2.1%.

The Cost of Living increment to be paid salaried workers in February's pay slip, due at the beginning of March, will be 2.4%, according to the agreement reached yesterday between the Histadrut and the employers.

The COL increment agreement, which will be valid for two years, is based on a new formula proposed by the Histadrut, ensuring workers compensation even when the inflation rate is relatively low.

According to the new formula to calculate the COL increment, the workers should receive a raise of almost 3% on the basis of the COL rise. However, since the workers already received 0.5% in August, this will be deducted from the increment, leaving it at 2.4%. Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz explained.

Peretz noted that the new COL agreement not only ensures the workers compensation at any inflation rate, but also enables them to renegotiate the increment in cases of especially high inflation rates.

The agreement was reached after days of intensive negotiations, in which the Histadrut demanded changing the COL increment system, and the employers insisted on the old system, by which no compensation at all would be paid workers in an annual inflation rate of up to 8%.

The Histadrut also demanded that in an annual inflation rate of 10% or more, the workers would be compensated for the full increase in the COL index.

Avi Barak, head of the employers' negotiation team, yesterday expressed satisfaction with the new COL increment agreement, noting that "we managed to reach an agreement while preserving fair and correct labor relations."



'Davar Rishon' journalist Efraim Davidi (right), chairman of the paper's journalists union, speaks to demonstrating staffers yesterday in Tel Aviv. (Assaf Shilo/Israel Sun)

Last-minute 'miracle' saves 'Davar Rishon'

MICHAL YUDELMAN

DAVAR RISHON, which was to close today, was saved at the last moment yesterday by what many in the newspaper and the Histadrut called "a miracle."

In a dramatic decision, the Histadrut revoked its Sunday decision to close the paper and announced that it would resume its financial support, thus establishing continued publication.

The impetus was provided by the Singer-Barnea group, which undertook to get together some 30 investors for the long-term project of managing Davar Rishon.

Editor-in-chief Ron Ben-Yishai said the group "will invest not only money, but know-how and commercial ability. The offer comes from the altruistic motive to help the newspaper."

Histadrut Chairman Amir Peretz said the Histadrut would be a minor partner in the project. "We decided to give this historic newspaper a chance. It's important for us that the social voice, the mouthpiece of the work-

ers, continues to be heard." The announcement caught Davar Rishon editors and journalists by surprise, in the midst of preparing what was to be the final edition. Most of them were incredulous, others cynical.

"We're afraid of getting our hopes up again," one journalist said. "This might all turn out to be too good to be true."

Peretz said that the Barnea-Singer company undertook to set up a group of investors who will put \$250,000 in Davar Rishon within a week, while the Histadrut matches the sum. In addition, the Histadrut will continue giving the paper \$1 million a year for the next two years.

Before the dramatic change, Davar Rishon's journalists had demonstrated outside the paper's headquarters to protest the closure. They were joined by journalists from other newspapers, who came to show solidari-

ty and support. Efraim Davidi, chairman of Davar Rishon's journalists' union, called on the Histadrut to "realize its mistake and revoke its decision to close down the newspaper."

Senior Davar Rishon sources said that contacts with several potential investors, including the Singer-Barnea group, had been under way over the past months, but the Histadrut's decision to cut off the paper's financial pipeline did not enable them to reach fruition.

"It is more likely that due to public pressure, the Histadrut was searching for a ladder to climb down from the limb and change its decision to close Davar Rishon," one source said.

"This way it has a good excuse to resume financial support to the newspaper at least until after election year," he said. "After all, the Histadrut is always demanding that owners lay aside considerations of profitability to preserve jobs. Why can't it do it with one of its own companies, like Davar Rishon?"

IATA head: Palestinian airline likely soon

HAIM SHAPIRO

THE director-general of the International Air Transport Association (IATA) said yesterday that he expects a Palestinian airline to become operational by this summer.

Pierre Jeannot, who heads the organization made up of airlines from around the world, met on Wednesday with Palestinian Council President Yasser Arafat and with Fayez Zeidan, who is in charge of civil aviation development for the Palestinian Authority. Jeannot said that the Palestinian airline would begin on a limited scale, with shuttle flights between Gaza and the West Bank. Flights further afield will come later.

Initially, Jeannot said, the airline would operate under the umbrella of an Israeli permit, since all airlines must have a permit from a recognized authority. Any further development, he said, would have to be a result of negotiations between Israel and the Palestinians. "The Palestinians would have no problem with personnel, he said,

since they have trained people who have been employed in other countries. The PA currently has two planes, each capable of carrying up to 50 passengers, donated by the Dutch government. Apparently, other states will also contribute aircraft, he added.

Jeannot said that one of the problems of air transportation in the Middle East is that air space is fragmented between the states of the region. He added that he would like to see a more rational use, similar to that in Europe. He said he is aware of the problem facing Israel as a result of the refusal of Saudi Arabia to allow overflights, and he would "remind" the Saudis of this when he meets with them.

He also noted the severe congestion at Ben-Gurion Airport, and urged the government to deal with the situation quickly if it wants to reap the benefits of increased interest in Israel as a tourist destination as a result of the peace process.

Navy helps repair Egyptian fishing boat

SAILORS on a navy missile boat stopped an Egyptian fishing boat off the coast of Gaza yesterday, and helped the fishermen repair their faulty engine and return to port in Egypt.

The Dabur was on a routine morning patrol off Gaza when it noticed that an Egyptian fishing boat had entered Israeli waters. The sailors called on the fishermen to heave to, but the Egyptians ignored them. The Dabur pursued them, forced them to halt, then discovered that the fishing boat's engine had a breakdown which forced the boat into Israeli waters.

The fishermen said that a certain engine part had malfunctioned and they couldn't return home. The sailors lashed the two boats together and started searching for a part that would solve the Egyptians' problem. After about an hour, the part was located and the sailors helped the fishermen repair their engine.

After thanking the Israel Navy, the fishermen headed for home. (Ilin)

Husseini plan would evade blocking of PA rule in capital

BILL HUTMAN

FAISAL Husseini, the senior PLO official in Jerusalem, has proposed establishing a Palestinian Development Company of Jerusalem to get around Israeli opposition to the Palestinians setting up their own administration in eastern Jerusalem.

Husseini presented the idea last week at a closed forum of Palestinian political figures at the Hakawati Theater in Jerusalem.

Sources at the meeting said the proposal was for the company to serve as a Palestinian municipality. The council members, or "board of directors," would be chosen by stockholders, who in effect would be the entire Palestinian population, 18 and older, of Jerusalem.

All adult Palestinians in the city will be asked to pay one shekel for "stock," making them officially eligible to vote for the board, as in other public companies, the sources said.

Husseini told the forum that the proposal is the only way to unilaterally get around Israel's ban on the Palestinians establishing their own authority in Jerusalem, according to the sources.

He said that past proposals for establishing Palestinian shadow city councils had proven unworkable, because of Israeli opposition. Palestinian sources said Husseini, who did not run in last month's Palestinian elections, sees himself as the natural head of the proposed company.

In a telephone interview yesterday, Husseini confirmed he presented the proposal, and that he hopes it can be implemented soon. "We can provide all the services [with the company] - education, planning, all the needs of the people," he said.

"The Israelis have a Jerusalem Development Corporation, so there is no reason that we should not be able to have one," Hus-

seini said. He added that the company's board might not necessarily be elected by the general Palestinian public. "That is just one of the ways being considered. We still haven't decided who will choose the board, and exactly how large it will be," Husseini said.

Meanwhile, over a quarter of a million Moslems are expected to attend the final Friday prayer services of Ramadan at Al Aksa today, forcing police to close down roads around Jerusalem's Old City to all but public transportation in an effort to make way for the expected crowds.

Some 70,000 Moslem worshippers attended prayer services last night at Al Aksa, with the crowd expected to grow to nearly 300,000 today.

Jerusalem police are to be out in unprecedented force. Security sources said the major concern remains as it has been most of the week - that Hamas will attempt a revenge attack for the killing last month of terrorist bomber Yihye Ayyash, allegedly by the General Security Service.

Palestinians from the territories under the age of 30 are forbidden to enter the city today under the partial closure, which has been eased somewhat. A similar partial closure last Friday, however, found many Palestinian youths able to enter Jerusalem illegally and attend prayers at Al Aksa.

"The situation will be tense," Jerusalem police chief Arye Amit told reporters yesterday.

Police sources noted that the other large Friday prayers of Ramadan passed quietly, leaving hope that there would be no incidents today, but police are taking no chances: some 2,000 policemen are to be on duty in eastern Jerusalem. Amit is to oversee security in a mobile command unit, aided by a police helicopter.

Palestinians from the territories have complained that even the limited closure preventing younger Palestinians from Al

(Continued on Page 2)

Eitan (Eito) Shalem
Real Estate Broker & Consultant

Dan Panoram, 10 Koytanim St. Tel Aviv
Tel: 03-5124086 Fax: 03-5731686

Dreams for Sale

- ★ The Dreams Cliff in Jaffa, above the sea, semi detached house.
 - ★ Mediterranean Dream! Ramat Aviv Gimmel, unique, high floor, immediate!
 - ★ New Dream! Caesarea - house, swimming pool, greenery, sea view, completely renovated. Immediate!
- Ask for Eito.

North American Newsstand Prices for J.P. Friday Edition
NY, N.J.: \$3.00
Canada: CDN \$5.00 +TAX
Elsewhere: \$4.00

SHABBAT	BEGINS	ENDS
Jerusalem	4:49	6:03
Tel Aviv	5:07	6:05
Haifa	4:58	6:03
BeerSheva	5:06	6:05
Eilat	5:08	6:07



IABA ISRAELI BUSINESS AND THE COMMONWEALTH ASSOCIATION
איגוד ישראל, בריטניה והקהילה

CANCELLATION

We regretfully announce that the meeting due to be held at Beit Sokolov, on February 22, 1996, with Minister Shulamit Aloni will not take place.

We extend apologies for the late notice.

THE HARD ROCK EXPERIENCE IN ISRAEL

Don't Miss It!!!

Dizengoff Center, 45 Dizengoff St., Tel Aviv, Tel. 03-5251336

NEWS

PITARO HECHT FURNITURE

UP TO **50%** OFF

Spring sale of lounge sets and various pieces of furniture from our display

Sale at our warehouse: Hasadna 13, Holon
Du Sat: February 17 and Feb. 24 10:30-20:30
Week days 10:30-17:00 Until last item is sold

EARN 4% IN THE BANK

OR

23% WITH US

Today, most banks pay up to 4% interest on foreign currency accounts. We offer funds with significantly higher performance records. The choice is yours.

Call 09-570881 / 02-334799

OLD CITY FINANCE LTD.
Corax Building, Maskit Street, P.O. Box 12485, Herzliya Pituach 48733.
Where your money works harder.

Centurion Insurance Agencies Ltd.

When only the best will do!

Fully trained English Speaking Staff
3 Be'eri Street, Jerusalem 02-247333-4

CENTURY STORAGE LTD.

COMMERCIAL STORAGE PERSONAL EFFECTS LONG-TERM CAR STORAGE

3 Be'eri St., POB 18174, Jerusalem
Tel. 02-243555, 238827/8 Fax. 02-240714

Yoel Bin-Nun: Mistake to back Netanyahu

HERB KEINON

THE Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza made a mistake in publicly endorsing Binyamin Netanyahu, and would make an even greater mistake if it launched a personal campaign against Shimon Peres, Rabbi Yoel Bin-Nun, the renegade member of the council's executive, said yesterday.

"I am against negative personal campaigns," Bin-Nun said. "I have seen two negative personal campaigns, one against Menachem Begin and one against Yitzhak Rabin. And I am not prepared for this to happen again."

Bin-Nun was responding to reports about a document that allegedly details plans for the settlement council to lead a smear attack against Peres. The council has denied that such a document exists, or that attacking Peres personally is their strategy.

Bin-Nun, for his part, said he doesn't know if such a document exists. He said, however, that the council in the past decided to wage a personal campaign against Rabin. Uri Ariel, head of the council, denied this charge.

According to Bin-Nun, the settlement movement is shooting itself in the foot by publicly and actively supporting Netanyahu. "And what will happen if Peres wins? This is a very irresponsible move," he said.

Bin-Nun caused a furor five days after Rabin's assassination when he announced that he knew of rabbis who gave halachic backing for the killing. Police investi-

gated a number of rabbis, but nothing came of the accusations.

Ariel rejected Bin-Nun's criticism of the council's endorsement of Netanyahu, saying the council has legitimate criticism of the government's policies.

"What are we supposed to do, say amen to every move the government makes because of a fear that if we don't, they will get back at us later? We will do what we can to ensure the victory of the national camp, and if a Peres government intends to take out their vengeance on us, then that is a scandal," Ariel said.

Eyal Arad, a public relations adviser to the settlement council and former aid to Netanyahu whose name was linked to the document alleging the council's plan for a smear campaign, said the council is preparing a campaign under the headline, "I am sure of the national camp."

Arad said he never saw the smear campaign document, and that as a public relations man he sees "three or four people every day with ideas, some of them completely crazy. I nod my head politely, and then continue without any intention of using them further. It is possible that someone close to the council, or someone who wants to give them suggestions, wrote a document, or that it is the document of an employer of an advertising agency. But never, to the best of my knowledge, was a personal smear campaign ever discussed or approved."



An elderly Palestinian man berates an IDF soldier standing guard on a jeep at a building site on the Ramallah bypass road yesterday. Demonstrations by Palestinians against confiscation of land for the bypass roads were held throughout Judea and Samaria. (Reuters)

'Al-Ahram' attacks Barak

CAIRO (Reuters) - The Egyptian government newspaper *Al-Ahram* attacked Israeli Foreign Minister Ehud Barak yesterday, saying remarks he made in the US cast doubt on Israel's sincerity in the peace process.

"When he speaks in this arrogant language and aggressive spirit and with this erroneous logic, he undermines all Israel's commitments to peace and deepens the doubts about its real intentions in the region," it said in a front-page report.

The newspaper said Barak told a Jewish gathering in the US that Israel is living "in a villa in the woods."

"This villa is characterized by wealth, it contains civilization and technology, but outside the windows other, different laws and principles apply, and there is no place and no rights there for

the weak," it said he added.

Barak upset Israel's Arab neighbors last month by referring to Arab leaders as "jellabas," the gown or cloak worn by some men in the Middle East. He later retracted the remark.

The *al-Ahram* commentary said of his latest reported gaffe:

"It shows a glaring contradiction between Israel's repeated claim that it wants to coexist with its neighbors and its desire to master and dominate others."

"Perhaps Barak wanted to win early the votes of the American Jews in an attempt to overthrow [Prime Minister Shimon] Peres and occupy the prime minister's seat in his place."

It said Israel should be the last to talk about human rights and law.

"Israel's violations of human rights are known to all," it added.

Meimad weighs turning into party

HERB KEINON

THE 49-member Meimad executive was meeting late last night to decide on whether to turn into a political party, or whether to remain an ideological movement.

Rabbi Michael Melchior, the chairman of the executive, said that if the movement becomes a political party, it then will have to decide whether to sign up with the registrar of parties and run in the upcoming elections.

Only then, he said, will Meimad decide if it is to run alone, or to join up with another party.

Melchior denied that Meimad and the Third Way have negotiated over running on a joint ticket, and said that this was not discussed if Meimad joins the party.

Meimad's head, Minister Without Portfolio Yehuda Amital, was involved in the Third Way and attended a number of meetings of its executive early last year.

Likud primary to be moved up

SARAH HONIG

THE Likud plans to move up its primary to March 18 from the original March 26 date, sources said yesterday.

The March 26 primary date was initially scheduled when election day was slated for October 29. Now that elections will be moved up to May 28 or June 4, the Likud wants to get the primary battle over with to gear up for the main battle.

Another concern is that Labor has rescheduled its primaries to March 25. This was interpreted as a hostile act, designed to distract public and media attention from the Likud.

Meanwhile, the Labor leadership is expected to continue reviewing options for election dates over the weekend. A top Labor source said that June 4 remains the most plausible choice, in view of the religious parties' insistence on not having the election close to Shavuot.

Labor hopes to win opposition concessions for agreeing to June 4. It wants the opposition to drop its insistence that campaign advertising be screened on Channel 2, and its opposition to amending the law forbidding TV to show candidates during the month before elections.

'Aguda head to go'

HERB KEINON

AGUDAT Yisrael faction head Avraham Shapira will not be heading the party's Knesset list in the next elections, and "most likely" will be replaced by Bnei Brak contractor Moshe Haim Schoenfeld, a senior Agudat Yisrael source said yesterday.

The source said it is clear that the Gerer rebbe, Pinhas Menachem Alter, wants to see "fresh" faces on Aguda's list. Alter is co-head of the party's Council of Sages, which determines its Knesset candidates.

The council is scheduled to meet next week to discuss the issue. In addition to Schoenfeld, Jerusalem Deputy Mayor Meir Porush, son of long-time Aguda MK Menachem Porush, will also be included high up on the list, the source said.

Shapira, however, said he knows of no move to replace him. "It is all words," Shapira said. "No one has told me that I should leave my post. If the rebbe tells

me to leave, then there is no shame in it, and I will leave. But there is no announcement. Until now there has been no hint that I step down."

Shapira dismissed Schoenfeld's candidacy. "Every four years he appears as the one who will replace me, that he will be the one to run. If the rebbe decides he is the person, I will congratulate him."

Schoenfeld, 56, said that if the Gerer rebbe believes he is suited for the job, "I will take it on."

He denied actively campaigning for the position, but said, "I am a political being from my youth. I have gone through all the different frameworks in the party, starting with youth group counselor, to commander of the haredi Nahal, and including all the organizations' different frameworks." Schoenfeld was a major in the IDF and commander of the haredi Nahal, since disbanded, in the 1950s.

Winning cards and numbers

In last night's Payis Hazak drawing, the holder of ticket number 057989 won NIS 1,000,000.

The holder of ticket number 200039 won a car.

Tickets numbered 650788, 113745, 384036, 237438, 126304, 072922, 854013 and 276527 won NIS 5,000. Those tickets ending in 13030: 78433, 53337, 73972, 77151, 32202, 10770, 43563, 93892, 80121, 52967, 99659, 71985, 26693, 90513 55539, 04492, 52071 and 17729 won NIS 1,000.

Tickets ending in 434, 802, 079, 119, and 393 won NIS 100. Tickets ending in 88, 70, 86, 21 and 47 won NIS 24. Tickets ending in 1 and 8 won NIS 8.

In yesterday's Mifal Hapayis daily Chance card draw, the lucky cards were the queen of spades, nine of hearts, jack of diamonds and eight of clubs.

BIRTH

ACKERMAN - With much gratitude to Hashem, Surie and Tzvi Ackerman announce the birth of Shira Penina on February 14, 24 Shvat. Sister to Elisheva, Aharon Yaakov, Mordechai, Michael and Liba Leah. Mazal tov to the grandparents and great-grandparents.

Marvin - Aluminium clad wood windows. Mill's Pride kitchen & bathroom cabinets & bedroom furniture. Showroom in Pithul Tibsh. 03-9341977. Also carpenters & painters needed.

DAMP? Because we use only the best and most advanced materials, applied by responsible and conscientious workmen, our success rate is UNMATCHED. Makes you think, doesn't it. "DR. RETIVIT" Call today - by tomorrow Netanya, Tel Aviv

Attention Americans! Videotape Conversion & Copying American - Israeli Multi system and all formats. Finest professional equipment. Radio Kol Studio 12 Shmuel St., 02-231390

PURIM Fancy Dress & Costumes for Adults for parties and events. For Rent 167 Hayarkon, Tel Aviv, 5292236. Lev Mahsan Tibshot 1

Young Tender **LAMB** grown naturally on Galilee pastures by South African farmers. **QUALITY YOU CAN TRUST** Kosher and veterinary supervision. Freshly frozen, cut, packed and delivered to your home! Choice Cuts: leg, shoulder, neck, chops, ribs, etc. To order, call: Ben Saks, Moshav Kfar Kisch. **06-765958**

NEWS IN BRIEF

Police seeking accident witnesses

Tel Aviv police are seeking witnesses to the February 6 accident in which Bruria Karon, 83, was hit by car while crossing Allenby Street at the corner of Rehov Tchernichovsky. She died of her injuries on Wednesday afternoon. *Itim*

Pipe bombs explode near Nablus

Three pipe bombs exploded yesterday in the Mount Bval area near Nablus, as an IDF convoy was traveling on the Nablus bypass road. There were no injuries or damage. *Itim*

HUSSEINI

(Continued from Page 1)

Akss is a violation of their religious freedom, and demanded that all Moslems be allowed to attend prayer services at the holy site.

Police presence will remain beefed up in eastern Jerusalem through the Lil El-Khader holiday after the end of the Ramadan

fast next week, police sources said.

Dozens of Palestinian youths rained stones and bottles on police outside Damascus Gate last night. Several people, including a 10-year-old boy hit in the head with a rock, were lightly injured by accident during the confrontation, a Magen David Adom spokesman said.

In the evening and on weekends YOU CAN TALK FREELY

In the evening and on weekends, you can call from and to anywhere in Israel, and pay less than 2 agorot a minute for a 15 minute call. **ANOTHER BEZEQ PLUS**



Interurban Calls

Every evening, from 10 pm until 7 am next morning, and from 1 pm on Friday until 7 am on Sunday, there is a charge for only one meter unit every 15 minutes.

Local Calls

Every evening, including Friday and Saturday, from 10 pm until 8 am next morning, you can talk with no time limit for only one meter unit charge. On Friday, from 1 pm until 10 pm, and on Saturday, from 8 am until 10 pm, there is a charge for only one meter unit every 15 minutes.



05-751111

Handwritten signature or stamp at the bottom center of the page.

Rachel's Tomb wall outrages Bethlehem



PALESTINIANS demonstrating near Rachel's Tomb in Bethlehem yesterday to protest the building of a wall there almost came to blows with the army. Demonstrations were also held in five other locations to protest settlements. They were arranged by the "nationalist-Islamist anti-settlement committee."

A march of more than 200 schoolgirls, youths, and local notables threatened to get out of hand in Bethlehem, as the marchers waded abreast into a barrier of Palestinian policemen,

whose linked arms gave way under the pressure. The marchers then continued towards Israeli border policemen, who refused to let them advance. They carried banners protesting the building of a security fence at Rachel's Tomb, which has divided the main road leading toward Jerusalem, a step the IDF says is temporary until the wall is built and the remaining two lanes can be reopened. Palestinians do not believe the lanes will be reopened and consider it a reinforcement of the

JON IMMANUEL

closure. Youths then tried to pelt the border policemen with stones, many of which landed in the midst of the demonstrators. Palestinian policemen chased and arrested some stone-throwers. Salah Taamari, the former commander of PLO forces in south Lebanon, who emerged as the most popular candidate in Bethlehem for the elected 88-member council, led the schoolchildren in marching on the

police. "The wall is simply being erected to protect the many Israelis who come to Rachel's Tomb on certain days of the year," noted Maj. Udi Zrabiya, commander of the civil liaison unit. Although Bethlehem Mayor Elias Freij had apparently reached a temporary understanding with the government coordinator in the territories, Maj.-Gen. Oren Shahor, other city notables, such as deputy mayor Hanna Nasser, were in the front line. "We don't see any reason

for this wall," he said. A colleague noted that "Rachel's Tomb may be in area C, but it is also inside the Bethlehem municipal borders." Col. Farouk Amin, the District Coordinating Office commander, noted that "during 28 years of occupation, the Israelis did not build this wall. Now they are doing it just to give everybody a bad feeling about peace." Abdel-Salem Abu Shukhaidem, a local Wakf Ministry official said it is all being built on Wakf land.

Rafael workers end hunger strike; agreement reached in principle

DAVID RUDGE

DOZENS of Rafael workers who began a hunger strike on Sunday in protest against management's intention to fire them ended their fast yesterday evening. The decision was made after works committee representatives were informed by senior Histadrut officials that an agreement had been reached in principle to resolve the dispute.

The accord, draft copies of which were given to the works committees, still has to be ratified by Prime Minister Shimon Peres. David Zuckman, chairman of the Rafael action committee, said they were optimistic that the accord would be approved by Peres after already being agreed by the Treasury, the Defense Ministry,

management and the Histadrut. Under the accord, 400 government employees out of the 4,300-strong work force at the giant armaments development authority plant south of Acre are to leave of their own accord over the next two years with preferential severance pay terms and pension rights. The remaining workers have also agreed to accept an 8 percent cut in their salaries, as well as forgoing other benefits. The funds saved in these steps are expected to save the concern another 5 percent on the annual payroll bill. In return, they will receive a

commitment that the plan to turn Rafael into a public company will be frozen for two years. "Without this commitment there can be no agreement," said Zuckman. "This is what we have fought for over the past two years. It is one of the most important agreements ever reached and we hope it is now going to be finalized."

JON IMMANUEL

NEGOTIATIONS are continuing at Rafael over management's plans to trim the work force by an additional 600 employees who are all on contracts. The focus of attention in the future is expected to switch to this sector, if the agreement regarding the government employees is approved and signed.

Mazal Fikdu, who graduated a course for dental assistants and hygienists at the Hebrew University-Hadassah School of Dentistry this week, is congratulated by her sister Tami. The course, the third of its kind for new immigrants, was extended from a year to 18 months because of language difficulties and cultural differences. Of 23 women who started the course, 21 graduated. Eleven are Ethiopian immigrants; the others are veteran Israelis and Russian immigrants. (Text: Judy Siegel; Photo: Avi Hayoun)

Jerusalem Municipality takes no steps against manager who insults Arab workers

BILL HUTMAN

THE Jerusalem Municipality has taken no action against a department head who made derogatory comments about Arab workers, despite the fact the comments were verified in a tape recording. "I don't need Arabs here. Let them all go to hell. I don't need them," acting sanitation department head Amram Sharvit said on the tape. Arabs make up a large percentage of workers in the department, and have complained in recent weeks about treatment by Sharvit. "If they want to complain, let them go to Orient House. — them," Sharvit said, according to quotes from the tape released by Meretz city councillor Osnat Yekutieli earlier this week by an Arab worker in the department. Yekutieli turned to Mayor Ehud Olmert, who appointed Sharvit to the post, and demand-

ed action be taken against the department head. Yekutieli also made public the earlier complaints. The city, however, has decided to take no action against Sharvit. Instead the municipality has informed the workers that if they have complaints they should be filed with the police, according to a statement by the municipal spokesman. The spokesman charged Yekutieli with "cynically taken advantage of the sensitive situation in the sanitation department in order to gain points in his party's primaries." Yekutieli, in a letter to the mayor, said, "This is not the way to run a city inhabited by two peoples. Racism is explosive material that has the potential of breaking through the walls of the sanitation department and setting fire to the entire city."



THE GOOD LIFE AT JERUSALEM HEIGHTS...

WE COULDN'T FIT THE PARK INSIDE
(but we had no trouble with the swimming pool, spa or the doorman)

A rare combination of a luxurious, amenity-laden residential tower, an ideal location in central Jerusalem and proximity to a new, green park in a neighborhood zoned exclusively for luxury housing accord Jerusalem Heights its unique attraction and provide you with the opportunity to reach the very heights of good living. Jerusalem Heights offers you a choice of exquisite two, three and four-room residences and penthouses: • Superb construction standards, including Italian marble, Spanish tiles and Zeyko kitchen cupboards in every apartment • Elegant lobby with round-the-clock doorman • Heated swimming pool • Health spa, including sauna and fully-equipped fitness room • Shabbat elevator • Private underground parking. Jerusalem Heights will be ready for occupancy this summer. You are invited to visit the exquisite lobby, swimming pool and model apartment. Come see the good life that awaits you at Jerusalem Heights.

Model Apartment

Swimming Pool

Model Lobby

Jerusalem Heights

J. Pritzer

Dankner Investments Ltd.

On-site sales office: 6 Rabbi Akiva St., Jerusalem. Tel: (02) 241444/3. Fax: (02) 241442

NEWS IN BRIEF

'US didn't seek Egyptian mediation in Iraq'

The US State Department yesterday issued a statement asserting that, on his recent trip to Cairo, US-Ambassador Robert Pelletreau "did not ask for any sort of Egyptian mediation in Baghdad." The State Department's announcement was issued in response to a report by Pinchas Inbari in *The Jerusalem Post* on February 14, which cited Arab sources as stating that Pelletreau asked for Egyptian mediation in Baghdad. *Jerusalem Post Staff*

NEOT HAKIKAR TOURING Co.

JORDAN

- ▼ Petra 2 days - \$169
- ▼ Jordan and Jerusalem 4 days - \$399 from Eilat

EGYPT

- ▼ Cairo Tours 2, 3 or 4 days from \$155
- ▼ Nile cruise 8 days in Egypt

SINAI EXPERIENCE

- ▼ Two days of camel riding, hiking and jeeps - \$125
- ▼ 1 week package - 4 days Sinai Safari + 4 nights Hotel in Eilat \$310 (until 31/3/96)

02-236262, 03-5225099

Israel & Judaism experience them together!

Learn about Israel and Judaism by studying, hiking and participating in community building projects. Ages 21-30. No background necessary. Scholarships available.

REGISTER NOW FOR MARCH 10 PROGRAM!

livnot @Lehivnot 02-793-491 • 27 Ben Zakkai St., Jerusalem

E-Mail: livnot@jeri.co.il

Website: <http://www.cybergate.net/~livnot>

THE JERUSALEM POST

F. DAVID RADLER, Chairman, Board of Directors
 YEHUDA LEVY, President & Publisher

Founded in 1932 by GERSHON AGRON

DAVID BAR-ILAN, Executive Editor
 JEFF BARAK, Managing Editor
 ALEC ISRAEL, Associate Editor, Copy
 DAN TZENBERG, News Editor
 DAVID BRIN, Night Editor
 SAM ORBAUM, Features Editor
 THOMAS O'DWYER, Foreign Editor
 JUDY MONTAGU, Op-Ed Editor
 AMOTZ ASA-EL, Business Editor

AVI GOLAN, Executive Vice President, Marketing & Advertising
 PAUL STASZEWSKI, CPA, Vice President, Finance
 YOSHI HORN, Vice President, Production
 STANLEY SCHRIGER, Circulation Manager
 BENZION MILLER, Tel Aviv office Manager

EDITORIAL OFFICES AND ADMINISTRATION The Jerusalem Post Building, P.O. Box 81, Romema, Jerusalem (9100)
 Telephone (02-315666) Fax (02-389377) CIRCULATION - (02-315610) Fax (02-389017) ADVERTISING - (02-315608) (02-315637-40)
 Fax (02-389408) TEL. AVIV: 5 Rabot Hama'arot, P.O. Box 23398 (61283) Telephone (03-690333) Fax (03-690377) HAIFA: 20 Nordau,
 Hadar Hacarmel, Telephone 04-623166. Published daily, except Saturday, in Jerusalem, Israel by The Palestine Post Ltd. Printed by
 The Jerusalem Post Press in Jerusalem. Registered at the G.P.O. © The Jerusalem Post 1996. Reproduction, or storage in a retrieval
 system, or any other form, is prohibited without permission. Editors: 1932-1955 GERSHON AGRON, 1955-1974 TED LURIE,
 1974-1975 LEA BEN DOR, 1975-1989 ARI RATH and ERWIN FRENKEL, 1990-1992 N. DAVID GROSS

Inauspicious beginning

If the manner in which the election campaign began this week indicates its direction, the country is in for four months of frustration and disappointment. While virtually all parties agree that the country is facing a decision of momentous importance, few seem determined to conduct a debate commensurate with the seriousness of the issues.

On television last night, Likud MK Dan Meridor blamed Labor for the campaign's unfortunate tone. The party in power, he said, has obviously decided to appeal to emotions: we will appeal to reason.

There is little doubt that the first part of his statement is accurate. Prime Minister Shimon Peres's decision to start his televised announcement on early elections on Sunday with a drawn-out, heavily sentimental description of the assassination presaged Labor's strategy. And Leah Rabin's statement on radio the following day, "We shall never forget who the murderer was and who was murdered, and we shall never forgive," reinforced the impression that the election date has been advanced mostly to exploit the public's reaction to the assassination. It was a not-so-veiled repetition of her charge that the Likud and its leader share the blame for the murder.

Only the election results will show if the public is as susceptible to this emotional assault as Labor believes it is. But it will be a shame if an historic opportunity to conduct a serious public debate on the day's great issues is missed.

By adhering to Meridor's pledge, the opposi-

tion may make rationality prevail. But the Likud, far behind in the polls, may also be tempted to respond to Labor's strategy by launching personal attacks on Peres. If it resists such temptations and trusts the intelligence and maturity of the electorate, it will do the country a great service.

The media will play a larger role than ever, and it must be hoped that they will shun the kind of sensationalism which caters to the baser tastes of its consumers and tempts politicians to appeal to the voters' lowest denominator.

It would be nice, too, if the reporting of events is separated from editorial advocacy and done with a modicum of fairness. Israel Television's Channel 1 is particularly offensive in its servility to the government's cause. Statistically, it has been shown to feature appearances of government officials four times more often than it does opposition leaders. It badgers and interrogates opposition representatives in a manner which can only be called unprofessional. And its coverage of Peres's activities recall the bad old days of Jordan Television, when the first few items of every news broadcast invariably described His Majesty the King's doings, regardless of how trivial they may have been.

It is difficult to imagine that ITV really believes that every visit of the prime minister to a town, army camp, or school is so newsworthy that it must appear at the head of the news, while similar visits by opposition leaders are given short shrift. ITV may be government owned, but it must not let itself become a government organ.

The hunt for justice

NO one doubts that hideous and unforgivable crimes have been committed in the war in former Yugoslavia. Nuremberg set the bottom line for standards of international behavior after World War II, and its lessons may have been ignored many times since, but that is no excuse for continuing to ignore them. The current buck-passing over who is responsible for enforcing the international mandate of decency on Bosnia's war criminals should cease.

There is no reason why the various layers at which peace must be imposed in Bosnia cannot be implemented concurrently, to ensure that the Dayton accords are known to be a comprehensive peace and not merely another wobbly cease-fire. Stopping the fighting and delineating the territory are obviously priorities without which nothing else can be done. But beyond this, the return of refugees, the restoration of democratic processes, the imposition of the rule of law, and the dispensing of justice are the layers in the bedrock of future peace and stability.

The Implementation Force (IFOR) effort in Bosnia, while eminently more effective than that of the United Nations, nonetheless remains lopsided, with undue emphasis on military operations. The civilian side of the effort, headed by Carl Bildt, has been strongly and rightly criticized for being slow to start, dithering in its decision-making, and weak in its insistence on enforcing the Dayton accords. The international force is not in Bosnia to renegotiate Dayton. It is there to implement it, as its name states.

The issue of war criminals is a case in point. It is disturbing that no one had been willing to coordinate procedures with the War Crimes

Tribunal in the Hague and lay down a policy for arresting suspects before the matter became yet another Serb-Moslem squabble. It is clear the combatants are never going to agree on the other side meting out justice so soon after the conflict. The Moslem-led Bosnian government may have had very good reason to arrest and hold two Serb officers for war crimes - but it is not really their business to do so. Such action just invites the other side to make tit-for-tat arrests regardless of the evidence.

Given the post-facto situation, US envoy Richard Holbrooke had little choice but to authorize the transfer of the Serb prisoners to the Hague, where the Tribunal will draw up indictments - but this was putting the horse before the cart. It should long ago have been clear that it is the Hague which must prepare cases and issue arrest warrants for IFOR to execute. Such a procedure leaves little room for argument, especially since the tribunal clearly wants to charge Moslem and Croat war criminals as well as Serbian ones.

This procedure has now been agreed - yet NATO commanders are complaining they have no orders or guidelines on making arrests. The affair of the Serb officers has already stalled the Dayton implementation, threatened a renewal of hostilities, and dented the credibility of IFOR. NATO has been given no information or mandate allowing it to identify or arrest suspects. The answer is clear - the Hague must assure itself of the evidence against individual suspects, it must issue details, photographs, and arrest warrants to NATO for passing on to its officers, and the troops on the ground must, under the mandate of Dayton, detain and return fugitives to the Netherlands.



Option that never really was

MOSHE ZAK

IN HIS book *Personal Witness*, Abba Eban, who as foreign minister held talks with King Hussein after the Six Day War, wrote: "I have always believed that the term 'Jordanian option' is one of the most unhappy semantic devices in the history of the Middle Eastern conflict. It obscured the limitations of the Jordanian role under the competitive pressure of the Palestinian idea."

Shimon Peres very likely accepts Eban's opinion of the Jordanian option having become outdated after 1970. Which is why he went for the Palestinian option, as laid down in the Oslo agreement.

It was strange therefore to hear Peres say, when he opened the election campaign this week, that the peace treaty signed with Jordan has realized the Jordanian option advocated by Labor.

Peres knows this statement has nothing to do with reality.

The alternatives debated after the Six Day War weren't peace with Jordan or war with it. The whole establishment wanted peace with Hussein. Even Menachem Begin, who in the past had questioned the legitimacy of the kingdom of Jordan, on June 15, 1967 proposed a peace treaty with Hussein based on economic union of the two banks of the Jordan.

The debate was over choosing the nature of the settlement in Judea and Samaria - between a direct settlement with the Pales-

tinians, and a settlement with Jordan over the areas previously under its rule.

Devotees of the Jordanian option assumed that Jordan, with its extensive territories, would be more willing to agree to a territorial compromise in Judea and Samaria; supporters of the alternative option claimed that an advantageous agreement with the Palestinians could be reached on the basis of Palestinian self-rule.

connected in economy and defense to Israel.

The Labor Party decided on the Jordanian option, on territorial compromise with Hussein in Judea and Samaria.

The peace treaty with Jordan, passed in the Knesset by an unprecedented majority of 105-3, is a good treaty; but it isn't synonymous with the Jordanian option. Peres is intelligent enough to realize that the Palestinian alternative he chose in Oslo surprised Hussein, falling to live up to his expectations from Israel.

Peres is aware that his suggestion concerning a Palestinian-Jordanian confederation has nothing to do with the Jordanian option. It means Israeli acquiescence in the eventual establishment of a Palestinian state west of the River Jordan. A future link between

that state and Jordan is a Palestinian, not Israeli, choice.

THE JORDANIAN option was meant to exclude the possibility of a Palestinian state.

But Peres's image and PR advisers assumed that the voters' intelligence and memory could be insulted, that Peres could congratulate himself on the consistency of his views, and that he could say, "We held firm to the

Jordanian option, and have achieved it."

It isn't only the Jordanian option that has vanished. Autonomy is also a chimera, and peace with the Palestinians is still to come.

The election campaign will feature many sound bites about "autonomy," "peace," and "Oslo," but the fact is that autonomy has disappeared, like the Jordanian option before it.

The precise term for the Palestinian entity in Judea, Samaria, and Gaza is an "interim self-governing authority." The Palestinians vetoed the term "autonomy," choosing to emphasize that what is at issue is a temporary arrangement for three years, at the end of which they will call for the establishment of a Palestinian state with Jerusalem as its capital.

This is no mere semantics. The Palestinians haven't agreed to autonomy, only to the confused formulations of Oslo. They haven't agreed to peace, only to a temporary cease-fire.

In exchange for this cease-fire, which is likely to end as soon as negotiations on Jerusalem begin, Israel has agreed to allow the Palestinians to set up the infrastructure of their own state.

Nor does the cease-fire really exist. The terrorist threat from the areas under Palestinian Authority jurisdiction has not disappeared. Even the PA's warnings to us of car-bombs about to be set off in Tel Aviv serve only to emphasize the ever-present threat to Israelis, who had hoped that the Oslo agreement would free them from the nightmares of the intifada.

Such Palestinian warnings, intentionally or unintentionally, assist the Palestinian institutions now organizing demonstrations against Israeli construction in the Jerusalem area. The terrorist option is a useful means to pressure Israel in the negotiations.

It was very easy for the Palestinian Police to leak the arrest of two Islamic Jihad members on their way to carry out a suicide attack in Jerusalem - about as easy as claiming that there were cellular phones in the time of King David, seeing that archeologists haven't found any ordinary telephone wires.

The writer, a veteran journalist, comments on current affairs.

Ploys to make life difficult

WALID M. AWAD

THE peace process that the Palestinian people lent their signature to will lead to the establishment of the independent Palestinian state with Arab East Jerusalem as its capital. This state will be established on all Palestinian land occupied by Israel in the war of 1967. Palestinian planners are working on building the political and economic structure of this state with this inevitable fact in mind.

They accepted the transition period and the phased implementation of the accords with Israel as a practical step necessary to lessen the century-long antagonism, hostility, and conflict between Palestinians and Israelis.

It is in this spirit that the Israeli people and government are asked to view Palestinian efforts to establish their economic and political infrastructure.

An example: The airport in Rafah and the Gaza port are essential projects for the Palestinian state, and therefore necessary for building peace between our two peoples.

But continuing Israeli interference in this project and many others essential to the Palestinians is souring relations between the sides at a time when the Palestinians are working relentlessly to build bridges between our people and Israel.

The Taba accord has been progressing smoothly - senior Israeli officials have testified to this fact - especially as there appears to be continuous coordination between the two sides at all levels on essential matters like security. The machinery for solving disputes arising from the implementation of the accords is supposed to be in place.

However, Israel has been committing gross violations against Palestinian land, property, and people. Land is being confiscated for the purpose of building by-pass roads for settlers; settlements are being enlarged, Palestinian houses continue to be demolished, trees are uprooted, and fertile land is damaged.

Palestinian Moslems and Christians from the West Bank

and Gaza are prohibited from reaching Arab East Jerusalem. They have been prevented from praying in its mosques and churches. Palestinian prisoners are not being freed - as a matter of fact more Palestinians are being arrested and jailed on a daily basis.

AS OF the morning of February 12, Israeli occupation forces enforced a complete closure on the cities of Ramallah, El-Bireh and the surrounding areas. People woke up to find that they couldn't go to work, that their children were unable to reach their schools.

People cannot see any reason for the closure; nor do they know how long it will last; they feel completely hopeless. This is a very dangerous situation.

The same old occupation mentality persists among the Israeli soldiers manning the checkpoints. Decisions concocted by the Israeli army to make life as difficult as possible for the Palestinians are being implemented once again. The confiscation of half of the main road connecting Jerusalem and Bethlehem to appease settlers testifies to this.

A wall has gone up on private Palestinian and Wakf land

Palestinian people.

The bottom line should be understood by all concerned: The Oslo and Taba accords are not surrender documents for Israel to abuse and ignore. They are binding international agreements based on UN resolutions which explicitly and implicitly call for the withdrawal of Israeli forces from all occupied Arab land.

In its attempts to be reelected, the Israeli Labor/Meretz coalition government will try to lure the Israeli electorate to its side.

Its recent actions - closing off the Palestinian territories, the expansion of Jewish settlements, its talk about excluding Jerusalem from the final-status talks, and its attempts to appear tough with the Palestinian Authority - are nothing but symptoms of the changing attitude wrought by the Israeli elections.

This is harming the peace process. It may harm Labor's prospects for re-election.

The writer heads the Palestine Institute of Management in Ramallah.

Palestinians are feeling frustrated and humiliated again

forced a complete closure on the cities of Ramallah, El-Bireh and the surrounding areas. People woke up to find that they couldn't go to work, that their children were unable to reach their schools.

People cannot see any reason for the closure; nor do they know how long it will last; they feel completely hopeless. This is a very dangerous situation.

The same old occupation mentality persists among the Israeli soldiers manning the checkpoints. Decisions concocted by the Israeli army to make life as difficult as possible for the Palestinians are being implemented once again. The confiscation of half of the main road connecting Jerusalem and Bethlehem to appease settlers testifies to this.

A wall has gone up on private Palestinian and Wakf land

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

'STATUS QUO ANTE'

Sir, - All major staff studies carried out by the American military make it clear that without the Golan Heights and the West Jordan buffer land, Israel can, under the best of circumstances, sustain an effective defense only for a most limited period of time. In contrast to recently defeated countries - such as Iraq - a lost war would mean the disappearance of Israel and thus for all practical purposes the end of Judaism throughout the world.

Premier Peres's overtures toward the PLO completely disregard the PLO covenant's clear intent to wage a jihad. In his overtures toward Syria, Peres held out the possibility of complete withdrawal from the Golan before Assad even condescended to allow preliminary talks and acted in day-to-day negotiations as if Israel itself had lost a major war against Syria. All this seems to presuppose that Israel will not be attacked again in the foreseeable future - a Russian roulette type of gamble with suicide as a programmed possibility.

As I see it, the admittedly unpleasant alternative that existed as the status quo ante with its daily harassments and human casualties but with Israel in unquestioned control, would be vastly preferable to the seeming likelihood - God forbid - of the eventual results of the government's unrealistic expectations, even though they are based on lofty moral considerations with Israel envisioned as a flag bearer leading to paradisiac conditions of supreme regional bliss.

Vienna. EGON G. ROTHBLUM

'POLITICALLY CORRECT'

Sir, - I think that "the source close to the Red Cross and the Palestinians" who said (*The Jerusalem Post*, February 8) that the Swedish government should press the Palestinian Authority about its use of torture, just as it protests to Israel about the proposed GSS law, made a great mistake.

There is no reason to believe that the Swedish government opposes torture when it considers it to be "politically correct." It is only "politically incorrect" torture that it opposes, and one can assume that it considers everything that Arafat does, including torture and other abuses of human rights, to be "politically correct." Incidentally, many of us, both on the left and the right, have the same attitude.

ISRAEL SHAHAK
 Jerusalem.

OVERKILL

Sir, - Your editorial of February 5, "The power of stupidity," is a textbook example of editorial overkill. Because Bar-Ilan University's New York office inadvertently used pictures of Yigal Amir in their dinner journal - an unfortunate error and obviously the result of some innocent in that office not knowing what Amir looked like - you use the following terms about Bar-Ilan: "stupidity" (twice), "imbecility," "sloppiness," "bumbling incompetence," "inanity," "ineptitude," "moral lapse," "cover-up," "whitewash."

Come now. Is this not over-reaction on your part? Instead of using these perfectly fine adjectives on what was obviously a careless mistake (though admittedly it caused renewed heartache to us all), it would have been wiser to save them for more appropriate circumstances. For example, every one of these adjectives would apply perfectly to the so-called peace policies of this government. Why waste them on other matters?

Jerusalem. ESTELLE FELDMAN

NATIONAL SHAME

Sir, - I read on February 4 of the imminent closing of the Atara Cafe in Jerusalem. This is a national shame. The Atara is a historic landmark of Israel. There are so few places which are a part of the current history of Israel that have not been demolished in the name of progress. Tearing down Atara to put in a Pizza Hut is almost heresy.

ILENE KLANG
 San Diego, California.

Jerusalem 1996

Wise for the next war

SADDAM'S war ended five years ago, but the military and diplomatic lessons are still being analyzed.

Three fundamental lessons stand out:

• Wars can break out, even (or particularly) when least expected.

Saddam Hussein's invasion of Kuwait in August 1990 caught the US, Israel, Kuwait, and just about everyone else by surprise. Although Iraq's economic and political problems from the long war with Iran were well known, neither the CIA nor Israeli intelligence expected that Saddam would risk war with the US by invading Kuwait.

As the crisis developed and the US prepared for war, no one expected that Iraq would be able to launch its "primitive" ballistic missiles against Israel, or that the US would fail to keep its pledge to destroy the launchers on the first day of air attacks.

The war and the missile attacks were unexpected, demonstrating again that uncertainty is the dominant factor in the Middle East. Nevertheless, many analysts continue to publish their predictions for the future of war and peace with confidence.

In a recent column, an Israeli defense correspondent criticized the IDF for still planning for a combined Arab military attack based on the scenarios of 1948 and 1973 (and prepared for 1967). He declared that in the wake of the peace process, Arab forces would never go through an autonomous or independent Gaza or West Bank to attack Israel. He explained how he had arrived at this conclusion, which seemed to be based primarily on wishful thinking.

There is no physical or political obstacle preventing a repeat of the events of 1948, and it is possible that at some point, Palestinian leaders would welcome and assist an outside invasion. Radical Egyptian and Syrian governments, looking for a diversion from internal social and economic failures, could create the conditions.

The Iraqi case shows that if the military capabilities exist, crises

GERALD M. STEINBERG

can and do develop suddenly, and armies move, trampling on the opinions of the sagest of experts. Opposing forces that are caught unprepared, such as Kuwait, do not survive to fight another day.

• Even in an age of missiles, the outcomes of wars are still determined on the ground, by tanks and armored vehicles, and the territory they occupy at the end of the fighting.

Many Israeli politicians, including Shimon Peres, are fond of claiming that in the missile age territory has lost its importance. This allows them to argue that the Golan Heights is no longer an important security asset for Israel. (When Peres recently asserted that

The basis of Israel's security remains flexibility, mobility, deterrence

hotels are more important than bunkers in the Golan, the head of the research division of military intelligence, Gen. Ya'acov Amir, pointed out that hotels are less effective in stopping tanks.)

However, the Iraqi missile attacks on Israel and Saudi Arabia neither lengthened nor shortened the war. Its outcome was determined by the air strikes mounted by the US and its allies, and by the ground attacks that captured Iraqi territory and trapped Saddam's Republican Guard.

Without the armored attacks, the war might have gone on for many more weeks or months, without a clear ending. (And had the US continued its ground attacks for another few days, both Saddam and the Republican Guard would have been destroyed.)

Conventionally armed missiles are a form of terrorism, and like the more familiar forms, they can make life uncomfortable, but cannot occupy land or threaten the survival of states. The Gulf war showed that territory and ground

forces remain essential, even in the missile age.

• Deterrence and the threat of massive counterattack are still our most important sources of security and guarantees of national survival.

We now know that Saddam had chemical and biological warheads for his Scud missiles, but despite his threats "to incinerate half of Israel," he did not use these weapons. We also know that the Iraqis exercised restraint because they feared the massive Israeli response that was promised, that would have done more damage in a few hours than six weeks of bombing, and would have destroyed Baghdad. The missile attacks were a form of terrorism, but Israeli deterrence prevented far more damaging attacks.

For the last few years, Egypt has led a concerted campaign to force Israel to relinquish its deterrent capability. Yitzhak Rabin understood the centrality of deterrence, and firmly rejected any changes in this policy. However, other Israeli political leaders seem inclined to make concessions in hopes of improving relations with Egypt and promoting the peace process.

The lessons of the Gulf war demonstrate that this would be a fatal mistake. As other states, including Iran, acquire nonconventional weapons and long-range missiles, the centrality of Israeli deterrence will increase.

Despite the missile attacks, this war did not threaten Israel's vital security interests. Above all, these events demonstrated that in an uncertain world, where dictators command large armies, and agreements and borders are ignored, flexibility, mobility, and deterrence provide the foundations of Israel's security.

Since the circumstances of the next war cannot be predicted, the IDF should base its training and planning on effective use of technology and the ability to adjust to any scenario, and not on the strategic placement of hotels.

The writer is a senior research associate at the BESA Center for Strategic Studies, Bar Ilan University.



A wrenching breach of faith

SOLOMON EZRA

I was 16 years old when I first stepped off an airplane onto Israeli soil.

I was fresh from Ethiopia, where I had been incarcerated under unspeakable conditions for the crime of helping fellow Jews escape from a despotic Communist regime to Israel. Certainly my own arrival on what I regarded as the sacred soil of my true homeland was the happiest day of my life, up to then.

There were even happier days ahead. I became the first Ethiopian accepted into the Israel Air Force, where I proudly served my country for years.

Professionally, I advanced beyond my wildest dreams. Growing up in a remote rural village in a mud hut, I didn't even see a telephone until I was 12. Some 20 years later, I am designing a successor to the current generation of computer chips.

For years I arranged the clandestine departure of thousands of Ethiopian Jews: when my own parents finally arrived in Israel my joy was overwhelming. In 1991, I had the privilege of working on Operation Solomon, the miraculous airlift that brought 15,000 members of my community to Israel in 36 hours. When I boarded the last flight out of Ethiopia, only hours before the airport fell to encircling forces, I must have been the happiest man on earth.

Today I am surely one of the saddest. It is hard to explain to non-Ethiopians why the revelation that Israeli officials have been dumping Ethiopian Jewish blood has caused us such great anguish, actually bringing us into violent confrontation with Israeli police. This type of activity is totally alien to our culture.

While we are actually not as unfaithfully patient, gentle and long-suffering as people suppose, we do not turn violently against those to whom we owe our education, our homes, and even our lives. But recently we did just that. Why?

There was a breach of faith by elements of the Israeli government. Our blood was accepted, then secretly discarded. Ethiopian

pride goes very deep; you might say it is in our blood, the blood that we have learned sits in garbage cans all over Israel. It is as if we too have been discarded as garbage by the people we thought were our brothers and sisters.

Fulfilled as we are to be at last living as Jews in a Jewish land, conscious as we are of the life-threatening risks that Israeli and American Jews took to make our dream of Zion a reality, grateful as we may be for the huge amount of money Israel has expended on our absorption, we still have serious problems that have received woefully inadequate attention.

These include education, the remnant of our community still waiting in Ethiopia, housing, jobs, army assignments, and the miser-

able locations of so many absorption sites.

short, they conduct themselves in all respects as a religiously observant Jewish community.

The National Religious Party has appealed to Prime Minister Peres to bring them to Israel immediately since "they are without doubt part of Israel and live as Jews in all respects."

But the government, which pejoratively refers to them as "Falash Mura" does not recognize them as Jewish and accepts as eligible for immigration under the Law of Return only a small segment of this intensely Zionist community.

What possible legitimate reason can the secular, supposedly more liberal Labor and Meretz cabinet members have for this position?

I boarded that last flight out of Ethiopia, one of the happiest men on earth. Today I am one of the saddest

How do Shimon Peres, Haim Ramon, and Yair Tzaban sleep at night?

The government has failed to expedite the reunification of our community, some of whose members have been languishing in squalor around the Israeli Embassy in Addis Ababa for over six years. Many members of the community have relatives serving in the IDF!

As tens of thousands of Russian Christians are made citizens of Israel, this religiously-observant Jewish community is asked to satisfy Israeli government immigration restrictions that are not imposed on any other Jewish community in the world. The government's efforts to facilitate their emigration have been minimal.

The Interior Ministry and the Jewish Agency have devoted shamefully inadequate resources to processing the application of even those few community members eligible for immigration under the government's absurdly restrictive criteria. The only assistance comes from two American Jewish organizations, the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry and the American Jewish Joint Distribution Committee. The Israeli government has not provided any help to this suffering Jewish community.

I will not let myself believe that Israel doesn't want any more Ethiopian Jews. Israel is not a racist country, and our reception by the vast majority of Israelis has been almost embarrassingly warm.

However, the blood dejection has badly shaken our faith; we need to have the government demonstrate its good faith by immediate positive action.

The writer, an electrical engineer, is on the board of directors of the North American Conference on Ethiopian Jewry.

What the market wants

ALLAN E. SHAPIRO

THE public interest is the only interest in Israel today that is not a vested interest. Public-interest issues will almost certainly be the non-issues in the coming election campaign. Binjamin Netanyahu's computer for every child is a welcome technological update of Shimon Peres's car for every worker, but that is likely to be the end of it. Both pseudo-visionaries recall the lament of American historian Brooks Adams that "Things are in the saddle and rule mankind."

The end of ideology has made the very notion of a public interest suspect. On both the left and the right, it recalls the bad old days of government intervention in the economy. Labor and Social Affairs Minister Ora Namir has told of her feeling of shame at the lack of interest in social policy in a Labor-led government, while Agriculture Minister Ya'acov Tzur talks of its elitist orientation. Their criticism of Labor differs little from David Levy's strictures with regard to his erstwhile colleagues in the Likud.

The new norm is the market, not just as a mechanism for economic decision-making, but as a social ideal. It goes by different names in different areas. In education, it is called free choice. This is the rallying cry for the attack on integration.

In the media, it goes by the name of ratings, which have replaced standards, the out-of-fashion public interest criteria of achievement. Standards belong to the bad old days, when newspapers served their ideological masters, the political parties that owned and subsidized them. The senior personnel of both mass-circulation dailies, currently under indictment, are certainly innocent of trying to propagate any particular message. *Davar Rishon*, the only daily that boasts an emphasis on social issues, narrowly missed being shut down today for lack of public support.

Having no place else to go, public interest issues pop up occasionally in High Court decisions, where they often don't belong, because they often transcend the limits of the law.

This would certainly have been the case if the High Court had, indeed, approved the building of the proposed Trans-Israel Highway, as was inaccurately claimed. What business would a court of law have in getting involved in these complex policy issues?

fact, the court merely refused to enjoin further work on the project because of the absence of an environmental impact statement.

THE MARKET norm, as applied to the highway issue, takes the form of collective hedonism. The argument is that everyone wants to own a car and drive it where he pleases. This is the bottom line for the political decision-makers. They want to avoid a traffic jam in the Knesset, where conflicting interests collide. They know they won't avoid one in Tel Aviv.

The end of ideology has made the very notion of a public interest suspect

Hence, there's no point in looking at the public transportation alternatives, the argument goes. That's not what the market wants. A suburban rail network might serve the public interest, but it can wait. The public wants to get where it is going in the family car.

Planning a superhighway may, indeed, be a matter for experts, but that is not the issue here. This is not a question of where to pour concrete, but where to put people - where they will live and how they will make a living. National Master Plan No. 31 sets forth a number of objectives. They include development of four metropolitan centers, population dispersal, conservation of agricultural land and open areas. Does the highway project further or hinder achievement of these objectives?

Los Angeles was once described by a visiting Israeli as the city of a thousand Afulas. Prof. Daniel Shimshoni, a social policy expert, asks if the highway won't turn the entire country into a Middle Eastern Los Angeles, but without the open hinterland of the American West.

Worst of all is the nightmare vision of a nationwide traffic jam, as the collective hedonism of the private car comes to its ultimate climax. New roads, here as elsewhere, mean more traffic and more tie-ups. No one seriously believes that the new road will

ease travel into or out of the nation's major metropolis, today's number one transportation problem.

Decisions on road-building were more rational in earlier days. Oldtimers in Yavniel, the Lower Galilee Rothschild settlement founded in 1901, tell the story of the decision to pave the road from Yavniel to Tiberias. Baron de Rothschild was coming to Tiberias, where he would receive the representatives of the community. What should they request?

Evening after evening, the argument raged: What project could best benefit Yavniel? The night before the meeting with the baron, the argument continued until the break of dawn, to no avail. In the end, the decision was to let the representatives who would meet with the baron decide.

The ride to Tiberias by horse and wagon took hours. The discussion continued the whole time. Tossed to and fro on the dirt track, after the preceding sleepless night, the delegation finally arrived. When they met with the baron they had made their decision: They asked for a paved road from Yavniel to Tiberias.

The writer is a legal and political commentator.

SELLING YOUR CAR?

The Jerusalem Post's Quality Classifieds

offer you several possibilities to achieve your goal.

Payment possible by credit card.

Call today!
Tel Aviv,
Tel. 03-6390 333
Jerusalem,
Tel. 02-315 608

Perfect Setting to Improve Your Health, Energy and Mood Year Round

MACROBIOTIC CENTER FOR NATURAL HEALING
Palm Beach, Gush Katif

EXPERIENCE * Endless Possibilities in Macrobiotic Cooking * "Do-In" Exercises * Yoga * Shiatsu * Meditation... and more

SPECIAL 4-DAY OPENING SEMINAR
February 19-22 (3 nights)
NIS 495 - Full board per person in a double room
SPIRITUALLY UPLIFTING SHABBAT PROGRAM
February 23-25 (2 nights) - NIS 365 (full board)
*Mozart of Shabbat - David Perkins Duo - Klezmer, Jazz and lots of fun!
NIS 895 for 6-night package

Ongoing "Self-Healing" programs available. Call now for introductory rates and dates.
Etti Reed 02-636448 Chava Bruck 02-866698
Palm Beach, Gush Katif 07-847910; Fax 07-847215

the israel museum, jerusalem

JAZZ OFF CENTER

The Israel Museum hosts the Tel Aviv Museum of Art monthly series of international jazz as influenced by Afro-American classical and ethnic music

PEDRO ITURRALDA (Spain)
Tenor Saxophone,
together with Flamenco dancers

with Yaron Gottfried - piano;
Aryeh Wolnitz - bass guitar;
Ronni Holen - drums, and
Sylvia Duran's Flamenco dancers.

Wednesday, February 21, 8:30 p.m.
Admission: NIS 65,
Members: NIS 55

Next Concert: March 27: Dave Liebman (USA)

Sponsored by Israel Discount Bank Ltd.
For reservations call 02-708895



Scott Report on arms to Iraq clears UK ministers

LONDON (Reuters) - Britain said yesterday a three-year inquiry into arms sales to Iraq before the Gulf War had cleared ministers of conspiracy and had revealed no official cover-up.

Trade Secretary Ian Lang said the inquiry report showed ministers had not misled parliament.

It also concluded they had not been prepared to let innocent men go to jail to hide a covert change in official guidelines covering arms sales to Baghdad in the mid-1980s.

"There was no conspiracy, there was no cover-up," Lang told an angry session of parliament.

Major set up the inquiry in November 1992 under judge Sir Richard Scott after the collapse of a court case against three executives of an engineering firm, Matrix Churchill, accused of illegally selling arms to Saddam Hussein before the Gulf War.

Before the trial, ministers signed so-called public immunity certificates, or "gagging orders", saying evidence requested by the accused had to be suppressed in the national interest.

But the trial judge ordered the release of the documents and a former minister told the trial that the government had tacitly supported such arms sales, causing the collapse of the case.

Aides said Major had complete confidence in Chief Secretary to the Treasury William Waldegrave and Attorney General Sir Nicholas Lyell, the two most at risk from Scott's long-awaited report and they remain in government.

Lang said the report completely absolved and vindicated Waldegrave and Lyell.

Scott said guidelines banning lethal weapons sales to Iraq after the Iran-Iraq war ended in 1988 had been eased. But Lang said Scott's report concluded Waldegrave had no "duplicitous intention" by not informing parliament.

Lyell ordered ministers before the Matrix Churchill trial to sign "gagging orders". Lang said Scott believed Lyell's advice had been correct at the time and he had acted with complete integrity.

Lang attacked the Labor opposition for what he called "reckless and malicious" charges. Labor had called the Scott inquiry a "smoking howitzer" pointing at the heart of the Conservative government.

But opposition members of parliament immediately launched a ferocious attack on the government for distorting the report and called on Prime Minister John Major to sack ministers.

"This report weighs the standard of integrity in our government... and finds them wanting in the balance," said Labor foreign affairs spokesman Robin Cook.



Russian President Boris Yeltsin gestures during a speech yesterday at Yekaterinburg, where he announced his decision to run for a second term. (Reuters)

Yeltsin, Zyuganov prepare for election clash

YEKATERINBURG (Reuters) - President Boris Yeltsin announced yesterday he would run for a second term in elections next June and said he was doing so to stave off a threat of civil war in Russia.

"My duty as the politician who launched reforms is to consolidate all healthy forces and prevent shocks that could lead to a civil war," the Kremlin leader said in a speech launching his re-election campaign in Yekaterinburg, his Urals home town.

Almost simultaneously, Communist leader Gennady Zyuganov was nominated by his party at a Moscow conference to be its candidate for the June 16 poll.

A further term of office by Yeltsin "would mean the destruction of our country", Zyuganov, a 51-year-old former college teacher, told reporters after accepting the nomination. He sneered at Yeltsin as a "weak rival".

Although there are other strong candidates, including flamboyant ultranationalist Vladimir Zhirinovskiy, many commentators believe the June election will come down to a straight showdown between Yeltsin and Zyuganov.

Yeltsin was elected president of the vast Russian Federation in June 1991 and played a big role in ending Communist rule.

But his popularity has waned since then as reform policies have left millions in poverty and a bungled military campaign against rebels in Chechnya continues to cost Russian soldiers' lives.

Opinion polls show him trailing Zyuganov, who led the reborn Communist Party to a big success in December's parliamentary election. Communists now occupy more than one third of seats in the State Duma, the lower house.

Yeltsin, speaking hoarsely after campaigning on the streets of Yekaterinburg, told supporters that June 16 would not just decide who would be president.

"What we will have to decide is our future life and the fate of Russia," he said in an hour-long speech, defending his record of the past five years.

He said it would be irresponsible not to continue his reforms.

"I have to bring to a successful end the matter to which I have fully devoted myself. I am sure that I can bring the country through turmoil, worries and uncertainty," he said.

Yeltsin's decision to run appeared to ignore two heart attacks last year, ascribed by his doctors to work and stress.

Apart from his croaky voice, he showed no sign of ill-health. He frequently diverted from his text to ram home his message in a speech touching on some of the achievements of his presidency, and often smiled and joked with the audience.

He made clear that solving the 14-month-old conflict in Chechnya was uppermost in his mind. He repeated that various peace options were being studied but he ruled out as unacceptable both an immediate troop withdrawal and "scorched earth" tactics.

Before his speech, Yeltsin took a populist line in meetings with people on the streets of the city where he was once Communist Party chief.

Rome summit crucial for Bosnia peace

SARAJEVO (Reuters) - Washington called the leaders of Bosnia, Serbia and Croatia to a crisis summit in a bid to stop the Bosnian peace process unraveling but the hastily arranged meeting suffered a delay almost as quickly as it was announced.

The Rome talks were put back a day to tomorrow and Sunday less than 24 hours after their formal announcement.

The meeting is to be chaired by the European Union, Russia and the United States and hosted by current EU president Italy.

US Secretary of State Warren Christopher said it was "agreed as a means to underscore the commitment of all parties to full compliance" with the Washington-mediated peace accords reached at Dayton, Ohio, last November.

The conference has been called at a time when the Dayton deal, which ended Europe's worst conflict since World War Two, has begun to fray badly over war crimes, prisoners and other issues.

The Italian foreign ministry gave no immediate reason when it announced yesterday that the meeting would be delayed. A spokesman said that a start today had been a target but never definite.

The United States hammered out the peace agreement between presidents Alija Izetbegovic of Bosnia, Franjo Tudjman of Croatia and Slobodan Milosevic of Serbia during three weeks of intense "proximity talks" at an air force base in Dayton, Ohio.

This month, in what chief US negotiator Richard Holbrooke called the sternest test so far for the pact, tensions have run high in the southern Bosnia town of Mostar, divided between Bosnian Muslims and Croats, and between Bosnian Serbs and the NATO peace force following the extradition of two Bosnian Serb army officers to the UN war crimes tribunal in The Hague.

KABUL (Reuters) - Up to 60 people were killed and many more injured by an ammunition dump blast in the presidential palace in the Afghan capital Kabul yesterday, the government said.

He said the afternoon blast at the palace, housing the defense ministry, was triggered by a fire in a faulty appliance that spread to an ammunition dump.

Official Kabul Radio, monitored in Islamabad, blamed carelessness for the explosion.

Soldiers at the scene said the blast could be a deliberate attempt to blow up the palace. But a government spokesman earlier ruled out a rebel attack as the cause of the explosion.

The opposition Taleban Islamic militia, seeking to topple President Burhanuddin Rabbani's government, has besieged Kabul since last October and has often fired rockets and artillery at government-held areas.

More rocks block way to bus in crushed tunnel

TOKYO (AP) - Rescuers could see part of the front of a bus smashed by a massive tunnel cave-in five days ago, but teetering rocks above it were keeping them away. From the other end, they faced an estimated two more days of digging to reach 20 trapped people.

The new obstacles yesterday deflated hopes that the victims could be reached quickly after an explosion the previous day finally broke up the massive boulder that had crushed the tunnel last Saturday.

The boulder, the size of a 20-story building, had withstood three previous explosions.

In a flurry of snow, power shovels worked through last night, clawing away at the mountainside outside a remote fishing village on the northern island of Hokkaido. Trucks carried away piles of rocks and debris.

Makoto Niyama, an official with the rescue operation, told reporters that several large rocks threatening to topple over were hampering efforts to reach the victims.

Digging from the other end of the tunnel would take longer, likely through tomorrow, he said.

Anxious relatives keeping vigil at the tunnel, about 890 kilometers north of Tokyo, fought back tears when they were told they would just have to wait some more.

The national newspaper *Mainichi* reported the finding of one body, but police denied it. Rescuers had reported that a fiberoptic inserted through the rubble Sunday showed a human arm, but there was no indication of that person's condition and no new discovery yesterday, police said.

London police explode suspected bomb

LONDON (Reuters) - Police exploded a suspected bomb in the heart of London's theatreland yesterday after receiving several threats less than a week after two people were killed in an IRA attack in the capital.

The suspected bomb, which police destroyed in a controlled explosion, was found in a telephone box, a Reuters photographer at the scene said.

Just hours before the Irish Republican Army had renewed an announcement that it had ended a 17-month-old ceasefire in its guerrilla campaign to end British rule in Northern Ireland.

Traffic ground to a halt as police sealed off the prime tourist area in London's West End. People described scenes of chaos as they were left stranded in theatres, restaurants and cafes.

"It's complete mayhem here. We have been told by the police to stay inside the theatre," the stage-doorkeeper at a theatre said.

"A traffic warden told us they had found a bomb and it was for real," an eyewitness said, adding the entire area was closed off.

Police said they received several coded bomb warnings by telephone shortly after midday. They had not evacuated buildings but had warned people to stay away from windows.

"Explosives officers made safe a device found in the Shaftesbury Avenue area. It has been submitted for forensic examination and searches of the area continue," a spokeswoman said.

She refused to confirm media reports that the device contained one pound (0.4 kilogram) of Semtex explosive. "It was a small device," she said.

Police stepped up security in London after an IRA truck-bomb killed two people in the Docklands financial district. The bomb exploded last Friday shortly after the IRA issued a statement saying it was ending the ceasefire.

With deep sorrow we announce the death of our mother and grandmother

BELLA ADLER

Basel/New York

Shiva at 11 Rehov Hama'apilim, entrance 10, Jerusalem, until Thursday morning. Shaharit at 6:30 a.m., minha at 5:15 p.m.

Mark and Lea Adler
Sammy and Beruriah Adler
David and Ricki Adler
and families

On Thursday, February 22, 1996, the 39th anniversary of the death of our dear father and grandfather, the journalist

ERNST ZVI LASZLO ז"ל

we will visit his grave at Har Hamenuhot, Jerusalem. Taxis will leave from Rehov Narkiss at 2:30 p.m.

The family

The dedication of the tombstone for

BELLA KELMAN - FUCHS ז"ל

will take place on Friday, February 23, 1996 (3 Adar 5756) at 11 a.m. at Har Hamenuhot (Har Tamir), Givat Shaul, Jerusalem.

The Family

The unveiling of the tombstone in loving memory of

DORON SADOWSKY

will be held on Monday, February 19, 1996 at 14.30, at the Ramat Hasharon Cemetery (Morasha junction)

Jill, Alec and Tammy Sadowsky
Michal and Ilan Daskal
Tel. 03-5494743

With deep sorrow, we announce the death of our beloved husband, father and grandfather

ENRIQUE GUTTFREUND HENSCHL

a kind and loving man

The funeral will take place in San Salvador, El Salvador.

The Gutfreund, Segev and Lehrer Families

The Embassy of El Salvador regrets the death of

H.E. ENRIQUE GUTTFREUND

former Ambassador of El Salvador to Israel

He will be laid to rest in San Salvador.

The unveiling of the memorial stone for

BEN ZUSSMAN ז"ל

will take place on Monday, erev Rosh Hodesh Adar, 5756 (February, 19, 1996) at 3:00 p.m. in Tiberias.

Transportation will be available from Jerusalem. For details, call 02-863855, 02-619582, 02-794748.

The unveiling of the tombstone in memory of

Dr. BERT GOLDSTEIN ז"ל

will take place on Monday, February 19, 1996 (29 Shvat, 5756) at 1:00 p.m. at the Sanhedria cemetery.

AACI ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

The AACI Central Region annual review meeting for all its members and for installation of officers

ISRAEL APPROACHING 50
Where We've Come From - Where We're Going

Presented by Hirsh Goodman
Editor-in-Chief of The Jerusalem Report

When: Thursday February 22, 1996
5:30-7:30 pm
Where: WIZO House
38 David Hamelech St.
Tel Aviv
Coffee and cake will be served

Preregistration required
(03) 6299799
ext # 1

Sponsored by **BANK HAPAOALIM**

ON SUNDAY - OUTLOOK DAY IN THE JERUSALEM POST

DON'T MISS:
American Outlook: comments by Alan Derashowitz, Martin Peretz, Evans and Novak and other leading American columnists; and favorite comics: Peanut, B.C., Feiffer, Calvin and Hobbes.

DON'T MISS IT!

King David Hotel is opposite the...
MENORAH HOTEL Jerusalem

in the heart of Jerusalem, very close to popular tourist sites. Cable, T.V., breakfast, refrigerator, \$59 per day per person in double room
24 King David St., Tel. 972-2-253311
Fax: 972-2-242860

Listen to Arutz 7, 711 and 1148 AM, 105 FM

ATTENTION TOURISTS:
Your vacation dream come true! And a profitable investment tool!

SHIRAT HAYAM ASHKELON

An apartment hotel is being erected on the magnificent beachfront - for observant families.

You'll enjoy full services of a luxury hotel with full bank guarantees.
Call Nof Real Estate, 050-259919, 02-375161.
1 bedroom from \$110,000 • 2 bedrooms from \$170,000

FIRST IN A SERIES

QUESTIONS FOR COMMSTOCK

Q. "I've recently been looking for ways to increase the income from my investments while protecting the principal. I've noticed, though, that the rates on bonds and money markets have dropped. What should I do now?"

A. You're correct that the rates have been dropping, but there are several investment vehicles that remain attractive. Eurobonds, for example, could significantly increase your current income. These dollar-denominated bonds are similar to U.S. corporate bonds yet often offer a higher yield than their American counterparts. You should also consider closed-end funds which pay monthly dividends to increase your income.

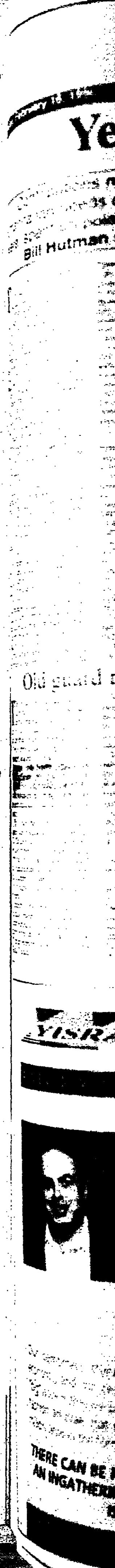
By nature, the price as well as the yield can change on many fixed-income investments. Therefore, each one must be carefully examined on a case-by-case basis.

Do you need answers about investing? Mail or fax your questions, along with your name, address and phone number, to **SUCCESSFUL INVESTING Co CommStock Trading, POB 7777, Jerusalem, Fax: 02-244876. If your question is used in this column (without your name, of course), you will receive a gift from CommStock!**

COMMSTOCK
EVERYTHING YOU NEED TO SUCCEED

CommStock Trading Ltd. (Est. 1981)
Futures, Options, and Stock Brokers
Jerusalem: City Tower, 34 Ben Yehuda St.
Tel. 02-244963; Fax: 02-244876
Ramat Gan: Beit Silyer, 7 Abba Hillel St.
Tel. 03-575-882677; Fax: 575-6999

Home-grown business and investment solutions.



Vertical text on the left margin: The Jerusalem Post, Tel. 03-5494743, etc.

NEWS IN FOCUS

Friday, February 16, 1996

Yesha Council misused US donations

Contributions meant for humanitarian needs on settlements were spent on political activities, Bill Hutman reports

THE Council of Jewish Communities in Judea, Samaria and Gaza (Yesha) has diverted funds raised for humanitarian purposes from American Jews to use instead in its political activity, in violation of US tax laws, according to sources in the organization.

Former and present council officials interviewed during a three-month investigation by *The Jerusalem Post* said this practice of diverting donations began four years ago when the council first started raising large sums abroad.

In all, hundreds of thousands of dollars in tax-deductible contributions ended up paying for political activities ranging from demonstrations to lobbying, according to the sources. This practice continues, the sources said, who also made serious allegations of waste.

Recently, several major US donors realized their contributions were not going to the humanitarian projects which the Yesha Council had promised and angrily cut their donations to the organization, the sources added.

"I have no doubt that much of the money raised in the US ends up going to demonstrations," said Marc Zell, an attorney who headed the council's fundraising campaign from 1990 to 1993.

Zell recalled an incident in 1993 in which council director-general Uri Ariel suggested that the easiest way to divert money raised in the US would be by giving it to certain yeshivot "which would ensure that the money would return to the Yesha

Council's coffers." By giving the money first to the yeshivot, the council would be able to bypass US laws on the use of tax-deductible donations, Ariel allegedly told Zell. The money would then be available for the political activity in which the Yesha Council is more interested, Ariel reportedly said.

Ariel denied Zell's account. "What Zell says is untrue," Ariel said, adding that "he never really worked for the Yesha Council." But Yechiel Leiter, head of the council's foreign desk, confirmed that Zell had worked for the council, and that he had succeeded Zell in 1993 as the one responsible for raising funds in the US.

THE NEW York City-based One Israel Fund is officially a separate entity from the Yesha Council in order to comply with US tax regulations. But for most purposes they are the same organization. Leiter is also chairman of One Israel, and Ariel is head of its allocations committee.

One Israel boasts a list of over 8,000 regular donors. A handful of contributors each give the fund hundreds of thousands of dollars annually.

Ariel dismissed the allegations that US donations were going to political activity, and said it was unfair to base such charges on anonymous sources. "It simply is not true," Ariel said.

Leiter said, "There are people out there with an ax to grind, and the Yesha Council is a good target."

"If someone wants to support political activity they give directly to the



Settlement leaders' meeting two years ago. (From left) Uri Elzur, Yisrael Harel, Aharon Domb, Uri Ariel and Ron Nachman. (Photo: Mithran)

Yesha Council," and in such case the donation is not a tax-deductible, Leiter said.

US law strictly forbids tax-deductible donations like those to One Israel from being used for political purposes. Jay Rotz, assistant director of the exempt organizations division of the IRS, said,

Tax-deductible donations may go only to "charitable and educational activity," Rotz said. He declined, however, to comment on reports that have reached council officials in recent months that the IRS is investigating the organization.

The council, through its foreign desk, which is responsible for coordi-

nating fund-raising, has told donors in the US that their tax-deductible contributions are going only to humanitarian projects, in accordance with US law. This is not, however, the case, the sources said.

"The foreign desk works closely with communities and individual philanthropists around the world to

ensure that the Yesha Council's Jewish communities are not deprived of the supplementary humanitarian funding they so desperately need," a report issued to major donors states.

The report is for April 1993 through April 1994, but was issued just last year.

A careful look shows that at least in

one case, the contributions did not go where promised. The first item in the report, under the title "Humanitarian Aid Allocations", earmarked \$535,000 for ambulances. The most expensive model, a mobile intensive-care unit, is listed as having gone to Kiryat Arba. A visit to the community, however, shows no such unit there. Community officials also confirmed that they received no new MICU unit from the council.

Leiter at first insisted the new unit was in Kiryat Arba. He later said there might have been a mix-up and the new unit been put in another community, although he could not identify which.

FORMER AND present Yesha Council officials said the organization's books are a mess. "No one keeps track of how much money is raised, where the money goes, and how it is used," says one former official, who asked to remain anonymous.

"I'm not sure it will ever be possible to trace the money raised in the US, because the books are mixed up so badly," the official said. "There was simply no accountability. We would raise money in the US, but never see the money in Israel."

"Checks were being diverted from the humanitarian purposes for which they were intended to all sorts of administrative and political activity," another former official said.

Most former and present council members refused to speak on the record about the group's finances fearing they would hurt the council during the run-up to the Knesset election, despite their outrage over how the finances were being handled.

Zell was one of the major exceptions. His reason for going public is that he now heads a rival fund-raising group, the Israel Community (Continued on Page 14)

Old guard resists push for reform

THE Yesha Council has not held elections for over a decade despite frequent calls for elections and a formal decision three years ago that a ballot be held.

Council critics, such as grass-roots settlement leaders Moshe Feigin of Zvi Artztzu and Naftali Matar of Women in Green, are quick to point out that the council, founded in 1979, is often mistaken as being similar to the democratically elected regional councils.

This is not the case. The Yesha Council was founded by a core of Gush Emunim activists to push for the development of settlements and lobby the government. The council has not held elections since 1983, and this, according to the critics, is the root of many of the organization's problems.

Criticism of the Yesha Council traditionally centers on the council no longer representing the Jewish community in the territories. Said Feigin, "I never expected a lot out of the Yesha Council."

Matar called for the council to "be more open. They have been in the field for many years, and now must be open to the new generation" of activists like herself and Feigin, she said.

But the old-guard council leaders have not only lost touch with the people, they are supposed to serve, according to the critics. A core of executive members and a handful of appointed officials not only make the council's political decisions, but they also make the financial ones, all in the name of the 140,000 Jewish residents of Judea, Samaria and Gaza.

The leaders who wield power at the council include "elected" executive members: Binyamin Regional Council chairman Pinhas Wallerstein, and Kiryat Arba Local Council chairman Zvi Katzover. There are also "permanent" executive members: former MK Elyakim Ha'etzi, former *Nekuda* editor Yisrael Harel, former MK and Kiryat Arba resident Rabbi Eliezer Waldman, executive director of the council's Amma settlement

wing Ze'ev Hever, and Ofra rabbi Yoel Bin-Num.

They are joined by the three hired professionals: spokesman Aharon Domb, Yechiel Leiter, head of the council's foreign desk, and director-general Uri Ariel.

This core of permanent executive members and hired professionals controls the purse-strings at the Yesha Council. Besides "controlling" the council's purse-strings, the core group also holds those of two lesser-known nonprofit organizations that collect donations for the settlement movement: the Fund for the Development of the Zionist Idea, and the United Israel Fund. The same crew controls all foreign donations to the Yesha Council.

Jordan Valley Regional Council head David Levy said for the first two years after taking office in 1990 he was active in the council. "I quickly learned that [the council] was a group of four or five figures who were making all the decisions themselves." (Continued on Page 14)

The council's unkept books

THE Yesha Council faces legal action by the registrar of nonprofit organizations because of its failure to file financial reports since 1992.

The registrar, Benzion Greenberger, said, "We have several options. We can erase the association's name from the registry, or simply dissolve it." This would get the council in trouble with Israeli tax authorities because of the tax breaks it has enjoyed as a nonprofit group, Greenberger said.

The Yesha Council has been registered as a nonprofit organization since 1990. By law, it is supposed to file financial reports with the registrar annually. Its latest report was for 1992, filed with the registrar only last year.

Council sources attributed the delays to the fact that the organization's finances are a mess. Last year, the council began to piece together its books, "but there is still a long way to go," the sources say.

They also said that registrar's regulations

require that financial reports be presented to an organization's general assembly before they are filed. The council hasn't had a general assembly meeting since 1993, and instead has been run by an all-powerful executive.

Director-general Uri Ariel said he knew nothing about the council's failure to file financial reports with the registrar, and that to the best of his knowledge this had been done. He promised but was unable to provide proof that the reports were filed with the registrar. B.H.

WE BECAME A POLITICAL PARTY THIS WEEK BECAUSE WE CARE!

- We care about the fabric of our society
- We care about the Zionist nature of our state
- We care about top quality education and Jewish values for our children
- We care about affordable housing
- We care about a free economy that benefits fully from the talents and strengths of our citizens

Our democratic character, our unity, our children's education, our economy, and our ties to Diaspora Jewry are not appendages to the "big" issue — they are part and parcel of it. In achieving these goals, we will fashion an Israel that is not merely a refuge, but a magnet for the one million Jews in the former Soviet Union and for those in the West.

THERE CAN BE NO PEACE AND SECURITY WITHOUT AN INGATHERING OF JEWS ATTRACTED BY WHAT ISRAEL HAS TO OFFER

If you want more information, or wish to join, call 02-6540770

Jerusalem as an International Tourism Center in the Era Of Peace

Seminar and Gala Dinner, under the patronage of
Minister of Tourism, Uzi Baram
Sunday, March 3, 1996 at 6:30 p.m.
in the Teddy Auditorium, International Congress Center, Binyanei Ha'uma, Jerusalem.

in the presence of Mayor of Jerusalem, **Ehud Olmert MK**
Chairman: **Eli Gonen, Director General, Ministry of Tourism**

Speakers:
Amos Mar-Haim, Chairman of the Jerusalem Development Authority • Ya'acov Efrati, Dir.-Gen. of the Jerusalem Municipality
Amnon Lorch, Chairman of the East Jerusalem Development Co.
Novi Cartes, architect • Advocate Yehuda Rave
Guest Speaker: **Benny Gaon, Managing Director of Koor Industries Ltd.**

Moderator: Gad Lior, Head of the Jerusalem Bureau, Yediot Aharonot

Honorary Executive Committee (in alphabetical order):
Shaike Altuvia, Minister Uzi Baram, Yoram Belzovsky, Elisha Ben-Eliezer MK, Naomi Blumenthal MK, Doron Cohen, Ran Cohen MK, Moshe Dovrat, Ya'acov Efrati, Avi Golan, Shimon Hanegbi MK, Yoram Haritz, Dalia Itzk MK, Yehuda Levy, Gad Lior, Amos Mar-Haim, Yehoshua Matza MK, Shmuel Meir, Eli Mizrahi, Eli Moyal, Meir Nitzan, Mayor Ehud Olmert MK, Yosef Pashman, Adv. Yehuda Rave, Adv. Yosef Richter, Uri Scharf, Silvan Shalom MK, Adv. Yossi Shapiro, Minister Shimon Shetret, Matti Tal, Ariel Weinstein MK, Rafi Wiener, Avi Yehudaiot, Mordechai Yona, Moshe Zigdon, Emanuel Ziesman MK, Shimon Zurloil

Chairman Israel Isaacs	Legal Advisors Adv. Ze'ev Well Adv. Yitzhak Mina	Advisor for Planning and Land Development Adv. Tamar Raveh	Accountant Matti Ganor
---------------------------	--	--	---------------------------

The seminar is intended for:
Entrepreneurs, company presidents and directors, board members, director generals, tourism and affine companies, travel agencies, urban planners, lawyers, industrialists, deputy director generals, financial managers, architects, economists, engineers, accountants, land assessors, investment advisors, contractors, advertising agents, marketing consultants, owners of investment companies, professionals and key figures in the economy.

Those intending to participate in the Forum are requested to fill out the following form:

To: The Economic Forum, I plan to attend the dinner on Sunday, March 3, 1996 at 6:30 p.m.
Registration fee - Forum members - NIS 120; guests - NIS 200.

Name _____ Place of work _____ Position _____

Address _____

Home address _____

Tel. (w) _____ Tel. (h) _____ Fax _____

Enclosed is my check payable to The Economic Forum Only, 2 Shmuel Hanagid, Jerusalem 94592, POB 1369, Tel. 02-244789, Fax. 02-246888

I will pay by credit card - American Express Isracard Diners Visa

No. _____ Exp. date _____ I.D. No. _____

Signature _____

ירושלים **בנק הארצות**

2 Shmuel Hanagid, Jerusalem 94592, POB 1369, Tel. 02-244789, Fax. 02-246888

02-6540770



Shimon Peres and Benjamin Netanyahu look to entice haredim to their respective camps. (Aliza Auerbach, Jerry Seidman, Eliahu Haber)

Haredi voters do as their rabbis say

For the haredi voter, the question of which ballot to cast for the prime minister could have less to do with issues such as territorial concessions and the future of the Golan and more to do with the mystical teachings of the Zohar about the ascendancy of right over left.

That is the view of Arye Frenkel, a public relations adviser who is himself a member of the haredi community as well as an expert on haredi politics. Frenkel also says he believes that Benjamin Netanyahu's admission to having had an extramarital affair helped the Likud leader rather than harmed him.

In any case, Frenkel explains, the question is less whom the haredi voter wants than whom the rabbis, the great Torah sages, will back. In theory, at least, the haredi voters do as their rabbis say.

This outlook is summed up very succinctly by the Agudat Yisrael daily, *Hamodia*, in a report on the unification of the Likud and Tsomet last week. There was no reaction from the haredi parties, the paper

said, since the rabbis had not yet made their views known.

"The haredi parties did not react to the unification since the haredi public will act as the great sages tell them and no political act, or any advice by political advisors, will help the candidates," the paper said.

Prof. Menachem Friedman, the Bar-Ilan University sociologist, who is regarded as one of the leading experts on the haredi community, says he feels that it is incumbent on the leading rabbis to declare support for a candidate; their position of leadership demands it, but he does not believe that they will be able to agree on a choice.

The haredi rabbinical leadership is more divided than ever, he says, and even the Aguda Council of Sages, which has managed to remain intact for longer than the councils of the other parties, is now in disarray.

In addition, Frenkel points out, the direct election of the prime minister, when voters will have to choose between secular candidates to head the state, is problematic. In theory,

As rabbis struggle over which candidate to endorse in the elections, some suggest voters just consult the Zohar, Haim Shapiro writes

the haredi public stays away from "Zionist" politics. No one from either Aguda or Degel HaTorah has ever agreed to serve as a minister, even though they have in effect run some ministries.

In the past, the rabbis could tell the voters that it was their sacred duty to vote for Aguda or Degel, that the voters could take time off from the study of Torah to cast their votes for the religious parties. The easiest thing the rabbis could do from a religious point of view, Frenkel says, is to tell their followers to vote for the Knesset and cast a blank ballot for prime minister.

The problem with that, however, is that the nation is almost equally divided and the haredi votes could easily be the deciding factor. In fact, Frenkel adds, a call to abstain would

be a vote for Peres, since the haredi public tends to support Netanyahu.

On the face of it, this seems unlikely because of the incident in June 1993 when Netanyahu announced on television that he was being blackmailed with a videocassette of his affair. Adultery is a serious offense, prohibited in the Ten Commandments. However, Frenkel says, it would be far more difficult for the rabbis to support a religious Jew to be prime minister than an adulterer.

This, Frenkel explains, is because of the view of the inherent illegitimacy of the Zionist movement.

"It is actually better if a moral person is not the head of the Zionist establishment. The [video] tape doesn't hurt Bibi," Frenkel says.

ON THE other hand, Frenkel says, Peres has great support among the haredi political leadership and some rabbis, who see a direct line of support for the deferment of yeshiva students and the army exemption of religious girls running from Ben-Gurion to Dayan and finally to Peres. In addition, Frenkel says, when Peres was finance minister he was particularly generous to haredi institutions.

Finally, the alliance between the Likud and the "antireligious" Tsomet makes it just that much harder for Netanyahu to woo the haredim, Frenkel says.

Friedman, however, sees the turning of the Labor government with the trust of Meretz as far more crucial. The presence of Meretz in the coalition makes the government

seem antireligious, Friedman says, and the haredim believe, with some justification, that a Likud government would be more sympathetic.

"The Likud wouldn't send someone like [MK] Dedi Zucker to be chairman of the [Knesset] Law Committee," Friedman says.

This feeling was very evident in a commentary on the Likud-Tsomet alliance which appeared last week in *Yated Ne'eman*, the Degel daily, where every time the writer, Alet Yitzhaki, mentioned Tsomet, he also mentioned Meretz. Indeed, Tsomet was only criticized as the right-wing twin of Meretz and the writer came to the conclusion that Eitan would have to drop his antireligious platform.

"It will be a gain for the religious that Meretz will be the only party with antireligious propaganda in the next elections," the writer concluded.

All this, however, is based on the assumption that the rabbis make their decisions on the basis of religious or even political considerations. In fact, both Frenkel and Friedman note, public opinion, both inside and outside

the haredi world, does have considerable force. If the haredi public wants one candidate, then the rabbis won't go for the other one, Frenkel says.

Moreover, both agree that the rabbis will not proclaim their support for a candidate who appears destined to lose the election.

"The rabbis won't back a loser. If the polls are for Peres, they won't support Bibi," Frenkel says.

Friedman says he believes that in their heart of hearts, the rabbis support Netanyahu, but that they will not support him publicly as long as Peres is leading in the polls. The rabbis have a history of remaining in the market, he says.

"They would prefer to decide without the press, or Peres, knowing about their decision," Friedman says.

However, Frenkel says, if there is no clear rabbinical directive, the haredi vote will go to Netanyahu, not because the voters prefer his platform, but because of the rabbinical mystic view that the right must win, just as the male must be over the female.

Now you see them all the time...now you don't

If Shimon Peres and Hafez Assad were to reach an agreement before the elections, the Israeli public might not be able to watch the historic handshake and signing ceremony on its own television stations.

A clause in a law being challenged by the ruling coalition bans the appearance of MKs and Knesset candidates on national television for the 30 days before the elections.

The coalition is trying to lift the restriction in an amendment scheduled to come up for first reading in the plenum on Monday. Opposition MKs are pushing to retain it, at least until the year 2000.

MK Haggai Merom, who initiated the amendment this time, says: "It's anachronistic. When Egyptian president Anwar Sadat met prime minister Menachem Begin on the eve of the 1981 elections, although television viewers could see Sadat, they were only shown pictures of Begin's shoes because of the ban."

That was not the only occasion footwear footage was shown. During the funeral of MK Micha Reisser, killed in a car crash on the eve of the 1988 elections, the candidates' faces were not shown, even when they were delivering eulogies.

In 1992, then-prime minister Yitzhak Shamir was edited out of coverage of Mikhail Gorbachev's

Just when election fever reaches its peak, politicians disappear from the TV screen due to a controversial law, Liat Collins reports

visit here. And one of the strangest off-cited incidents springing from the law was the ban on broadcasting a football match in 1988 until Hapoel Tel Aviv player Moshe Sinai removed himself from the bottom of the Labor Party list.

"The situation is absurd, particularly when Israeli viewers are exposed to the news from other

foreign sources and in an age of direct elections for the prime minister," Merom says. "The opposition fears politicization and says without the ban, the government will exploit the broadcast outlets. But I think journalists can be trusted, and [I] give them credit that they will prevent any gross violation."

"Such a law is not suitable in the

age of multi-channels. There can be no doubt that viewers will simply get the news through CNN and NBC instead. In the age of news, things can't be kept from the public."

MK Eliezer Zandberg (Tsomet) prepared a bill to amend the law in 1993, but after passing preliminary reading, it has lain buried in the Knesset's Law Committee for more than two years. Zandberg says he still favors lifting the ban, but, mindful of the serious objections of his opposition partners, particularly those on the joint Likud-Tsomet list, he is cautious.

"I'm meeting with Tsomet MKs Monday morning before the vote and I want to hear the opinions of both sides before deciding what to do," he says.

Since the elections were brought forward, the [broadcast time] situation has worsened considerably. It is now extremely difficult for opposition MKs to get air time, even on subjects they are closely connected with.

"For example, although I have been warning about and following the affair of banks overcharging for 10 years, I was unable to get time to speak on television. I heard my name quoted, but I was not allowed to say anything."

"The current situation is terrible. We [the opposition] are not even given the chance to respond to accusations leveled against us on the air."

"I'm in favor of changing the law now, as long as the change would come into effect for the elections in the year 2000 and not immediately. We can't change the law for these elections. We're not suckers and we won't commit political suicide."

MK Limor Livnat, in charge of the Likud's electoral campaign, is also lobbying to keep the prohibition, at least until after the upcoming elections.

"The coalition and opposition are offered completely unequal air time," she says. "The weekly review by [Ma'ariv's] Meir Schnitzer shows that the television appearances by coalition members compared to opposition MKs is completely biased."

"With the exception perhaps of Bibi [Likud leader Benjamin Netanyahu] and Rafal [Tsomet leader Rafael Eitan] when they signed the joint list agreement last week, the exposure is out of all proportion to the strength and size of the opposition in the Knesset. Canceling such a bill would be harmful and could only help the government without benefiting the opposition."

more succinct.

"The law is a farce," he says. He notes that not only are the cable stations and radio stations free of the ban, but that the print press has no limits on pre-election coverage either.

Poraz is fighting a separate battle concerning election propaganda. The head of the Knesset subcommittee on the Second Channel and Radio Authority, he favors maintaining a ban on Channel 2 on showing party political broadcasts. He says such broadcasts will send viewers to foreign cable stations and incur losses for the Channel 2 franchise holders. He was outvoted by his committee members, who supported the party broadcasts on both channels.

It is not only the MKs and candidates who cannot agree on the electoral propaganda issue. Media folk can be found to support either side.

Israel Television producer Aharon Goldfinger, responsible for *Popolitika*, said on a recent Channel 1 program, "The media is supervised and monitored enough to decide what kind of doses and exposure each [politician] gets."

Yedioth Aharonot journalist Amos Carmel, on the other hand, told Israel Radio that he disputes the basic premise that the media will monitor and censor themselves. He also noted recent lack of equality in air time and even objected to the classic example of the Begin-Sadat meeting, frequently given by the ban's opponents.

"The Begin-Sadat meeting itself was not free of a political taint," he charged. Similarly, should Peres and Assad actually meet on the eve of the elections, the historic event would not be free of electoral overtones.

"Less damage is caused by viewers watching CNN than the damage that could result from lifting the current limits," Carmel said.

And Molelet leader Rehavam Ze'evi has his own reasons for supporting the restrictions.

"It's a just law. It gives equal exposure to all candidates. Any law promoting equality between different people and bodies is a positive thing. In any case, I'm very discriminated against by the media and I want to put those who receive extra coverage into the same situation that I'm in."

YOU DEMAND, WE COMPLY

EILAT AND THE NEGEV

Sold out in October, we're organizing another popular tour to the south. So get in now, for a really great time at a bargain price. Shorashim and The Jerusalem Post Travel Club's stimulating and informative English speaking off-the-beaten-track 4 day tour of the Negev and Eilat. We'll pick you up in Tel Aviv or Jerusalem, and on the way south visit the Air Force Museum at Hatzertim, and Machtesh Ramon (the Ramon Crater). We'll tour the Shoret Canyon, cruise the coral reefs in a glass-bottomed boat, and view Aqaba and Taba, take a jeep tour, yes, a jeep tour of Mt. Yo'ash, Ein Netafim, Nahal Shlomo, Nahal Yehoshafat and Nahal Rehavam. There'll be two evening lectures and a night tour of Eilat. We'll be staying at the delightful PARADISE HOTELS in Eilat and our tour guide will be David Solomon.

The Dates: Mon., February 26- Thur., February 29 4 days, 3 nights.

The Price: NIS 1045, per person in a double room, half board, air conditioned bus from Jerusalem or Tel Aviv and return, escorts and guides, entrance to all sites, lectures, jeep tour, etc.

Shorashim: POB 7588, 14 Rehov Abarbanel, Rehavia, Jerusalem 91074. Tel. 02-666231 9:30 a.m. till 2:00 p.m. (ask for Romit or Tamir)

Jandori / Kohinar

INDIAN RESTAURANT

Special Buffet Lunch - NIS 44 (children - NIS 22) served 12:30-3:30 p.m. Dinner 7:00 p.m.-1:00 a.m. Please call for reservations

Tel Aviv	Hadya Pinesh	Eilat	Jerusalem	Tiberias
Tharood	Tharood	Tharood	Kohinar	Kohinar
Changoff St.	Sharazin Building	Hotel Laguna	Hotel Inn	Month Plaza Hotel
02-6288180	02-648702	The King Wharf	The Crown Plaza	Old Wharf
02-6288180	02-648702	07-533679	02-5881267	02-724636

Winners of the *Chaine des Rotisseurs* world famous restaurant award

ON MONDAY - NYT DAY IN THE JERUSALEM POST

DON'T MISS:

Eight pages from *The New York Times Weekly Review*. Stories, reports, comments, analyses and opinions by some of the world's best known journalists.

DON'T MISS IT!

THE JERUSALEM POST HANDICRAFTS FAIR

Monday, April 8, 1996

The Goldberg Sports Hall, Malha

The Jerusalem Post Funds are looking for volunteers who can entertain the children at the biggest and best Fair ever. If you are a juggler, conjurer, musician, or clown and are willing to give a few hours for a very good cause, please phone Beverlee or Judy (02) 233986 from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. Sunday through Thursday

ONLY at the OPEN UNIVERSITY

FRENCH ARABIC RUSSIAN

HEBREW

CHINESE SPANISH ITALIAN

School of Languages

February 25th

all levels* including Hebrew Literature

TEL. AVIV 03-6404588, 6404511 • HAIFA 04-8245686, 8245659 • JERUSALEM 02-617536, 639254

Handwritten signature or note at the bottom of the page.

The Nautilus laser: Aiming into the future

Between Arrow and Nautilus, US-Israeli antimissile research is moving forward, Steve Rodan reports

ONE by one, Prime Minister Shimon Peres listed this week what he said were the accomplishments of the Labor government. Then, speaking to the coalition's Knesset caucus, he referred to the military.

"The IDF will remain a strong and modern army," Peres said. "I warn those who fire Katyushas that soon we will have weapons against Katyushas and against missiles."

Israel is entering an intensive stage of development of antimissile defense systems that will encompass a variety of means of shooting down enemy rockets. Some of the programs are in their infancy; some are arriving at the stage where production is being planned.

Defense Ministry director-general David Ivry says Israel's current efforts to build a shield against missiles was one of the chief lessons of the Gulf war. The Arab states, particularly Syria, watched Iraq rain Scud B missiles on Israel without any difficulty.

"I gave a lot of countries in the Middle East the feeling that this is the type of solution they can use to compensate for their lack of air power," Ivry says.

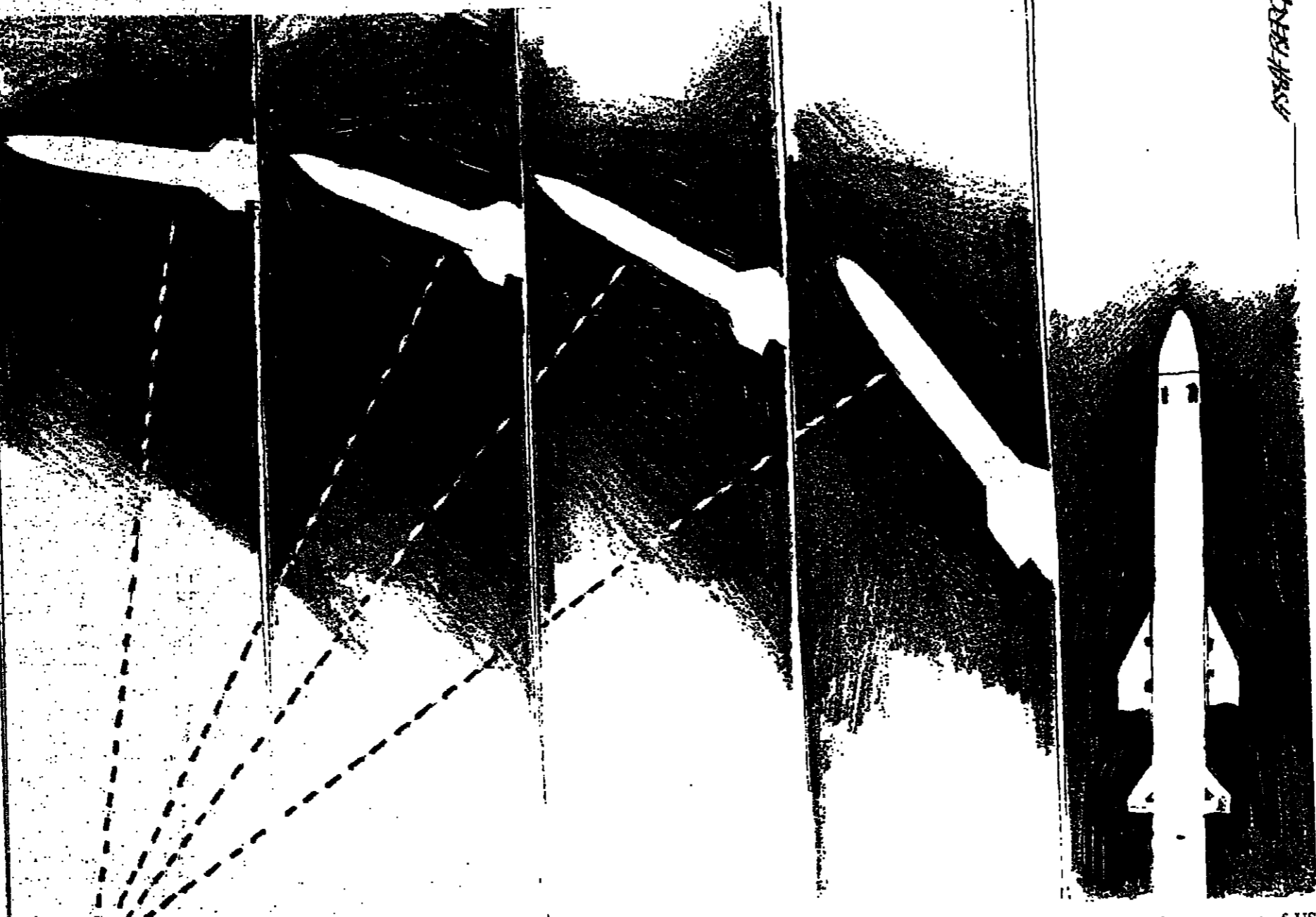
Israel's known antimissile defense programs have one thing in common: they are being developed with US funds and technical help and therefore come under Washington's control. The main effort is the Arrow program, begun in 1986 with the development of an experimental missile designed to intercept and destroy an incoming enemy missile. Last year, the Arrow II, meant to be the operational missile, was launched in what was called a successful test.

The Arrow II, smaller and lighter than its predecessor, will be tested again, defense sources say. As with its first test, the forthcoming launch will be kept simple. It will not attempt to intercept an incoming missile.

Instead, Ivry says, Arrow II will be tested for what he calls its feasibility and reliability. In other words, whether all of its systems, except for its interception capabilities, work.

Arrow II differs from the first missile in that Israel is putting up most of the money. The five-year program calls for Israel to fund 60 percent of the \$500 million project.

Ivry says part of the funding is to give Arrow the ability to integrate into other antimissile defense systems. The US, for example, is developing the THAAD (Theater High Altitude



Area Defense) missile which, unlike the Arrow, is meant to strike the warhead of the incoming missile. The Arrow's goal is to move in close and shower shrapnel to destroy the enemy missile's warhead.

The US is also helping fund an Israeli project to develop the rest of the antimissile system. This includes the radars and fire control needed to spot an incoming missile and target it for interception.

Ivry says two radars are being developed for the Arrow, one of which will be used in the next test. If the forthcoming test is successful, he says, then the following demonstration will seek to intercept an incoming missile.

Defense sources say they are hoping that by 1998 Israel will deploy its first Arrow system, which will be comprised of the missile batteries and launchers, the early-warning radar to detect enemy launches, and a fire control center to track the flight of the enemy missile.

Ivry, however, is more vague. "There is an expectation that within two years we'll have capability," he says without elaborating. "I can say that a year from now we'll have more capability than we have today. And in two years, we'll have even more."

The final cost of Arrow still remains in dispute. A Defense Ministry estimate prices the package of development and deployment at \$1.5 billion. Critics in the US and Israel say a system that aims to protect Israel's population centers from missile attack will cost at least three times that.

But defense officials agree that Arrow will not be the only system

in operation. Israel plans to establish a multi-layered system that aims to destroy enemy missiles in their initial flight period.

The concept is called Boost Phase Intercept and the US and Israel are quietly determining the feasibility of using Unmanned

The Arrow's goal is to move in close and shower shrapnel to destroy the enemy missile's warhead

Aerial Vehicles to scout enemy territory where missile launchers are suspected of operating. A satellite or airborne radar would spot a launch and direct the UAV to fire its missile and destroy the enemy's rocket.

The US Congress has allocated up to \$15 million for research on BPI and Israeli officials say it will take another year to determine whether the concept should enter the development stage.

BOTH THE Arrow and BPI could be affected by yet another program being developed by Israel and the US. This is the Nautilus, which, with a \$5 million budget in 1996, is the smallest of the antimissile defense programs. Israel contributes \$900,000 to the program.

Nautilus, a survivor of the Strategic Defense Initiative of the mid-'80s, aims to evaluate lasers as a tactical air defense system

against rockets, mortars, and unmanned air reconnaissance vehicles. In a test last Friday, the Nautilus laser, termed MIRACL, directed its beam at an Israeli-supplied Katyusha rocket, exploding it in flight.

For US and Israeli officials, the laser's success proved the feasibility of being able to destroy a short-range rocket at a far cheaper cost than other anti-missile projects, whereby a missile is launched to intercept and destroy an enemy missile. They said they will now test the laser against artillery shells, which are slower and smaller than rockets.

US Army officials, responsible for the Pentagon's end of the program, said the Nautilus technology could be used against ballistic missiles as well. Already, several US defense contractors are developing an airborne laser that, from above the atmosphere, could destroy a ballistic missile in the initial launch period.

Gerald Steinberg, senior researcher at Bar-Ilan University's Begin-Sadat Center for Strategic Studies and an author of a book on antimissile defense, says Nautilus could end up refuting criticism that an antimissile defense system is too costly.

"With a laser, you can make many shots and you can aim extremely accurately," Steinberg says. "With a laser, you can aim within a few centimeters. And, if you're talking about a range of a few hundred meters and laser moves at the speed of light, you can adjust your aim very quickly."

Steinberg, echoing the assessment of Israel's defense officials, says the biggest problem will be

to quickly track short-range rockets hurtling toward Israel and directing the lasers quickly enough so that the enemy's salvo can be destroyed. But he says that lasers are flexible enough to shoot two or three targets within seconds.

"The lasers don't have a reload-

The Nautilus test proved it could destroy a short-range rocket far cheaper cost than other anti-missile projects

ing problem," he says. "Lasers, like a Dick Tracy cartoon, can shoot in two or three different directions. Changing the direction is very simple because you're using mirrors. It has its limits, but it is less limited than a missile-firing system."

Steinberg suggests that the success of Nautilus should push Israel to follow the US's lead and explore using lasers rather than missiles as a means to destroy enemy rockets.

Not everybody agrees that lasers are the best solution. James Hackett, a leading US missile expert for the San Diego-based Titan Systems, says the technical challenges of any laser system are formidable.

naval vessels from low-flying cruise missiles. Instead the US Army took over MIRACL and its \$30 million annual budget and now it, too, has not designated funds to continue the project. Indeed, Nautilus only has enough money to operate until the end of September and the Defense Department has not even asked Congress to continue funding.

"We're hoping that Congress will come up with the money by itself," a US Army official says. "In nine months, we've managed to shoot down a rocket. That should speak for itself."

ISRAELI OFFICIALS have shrugged off the debate over the Nautilus. As they see it, the program presents another option for Israel in its development of missile defense.

But privately, they acknowledge that Israel's dependence on the US for these programs has its drawbacks. First, the US has full control of all technology developed in Arrow. Second, Washington can and has vetoed the requests of other friendly countries, such as Korea, to participate in Arrow and defray eventual Israeli costs in deploying the system.

Reconnaissance is another area where US control has hampered Israel's freedom. Some defense sources see Israel's Ofek satellite program as a way to ensure the country's ability to survey enemy territory and provide response time to any missile launch.

The US has expressed displeasure with Ofek, suggesting that it could escalate tensions with Israel's neighbors. Last week in London, senior defense officials, including Ivry, met with CIA chief John Deutch about using Israeli and US satellites in the Middle East.

"There was a discussion but no resolution of the subject," a defense official says.

But Israeli officials add that so far, American pique has not affected their partnership in antimissile defense. They say after another test of Nautilus, Israel and the US will develop a prototype of the laser system - if funding is available - which will include ground-station radars, lasers, and fire-control systems.

At this point, Ivry sees Nautilus as being very different from the Arrow, his focus for the next few years. But the development of Nautilus, he adds, could result in using lasers rather than missiles as an option in destroying enemy ballistic missiles.

Steinberg agrees that for now Israel has plenty of options and need not make any choices.

"We're not anywhere near the point where Israel has to decide which system is the most suitable," Steinberg says.

AMIT WOMEN LEARN and LUNCH A TASTE OF TALMUD
 Tuesdays 12:00 noon-1:30 p.m.
 February 27 - Karen Kirshenbaum - *Yit Hashem*
 March 19 - Judy Hurwich - *Pessah: the Independent Woman*
 April 23 - Dr. Caroline Peyser - *Destruction and Redemption*
 May 21 - Rivky Shuchatowitz - *Shavuot Cleanings*
 June 11 - Dr. Sara Weinstein - *Hanna: Piety or Anger?*
 Mason AMIT - 8 Alkatal, Jerusalem, Res. 02-619222 (a.m.)
 Members NIS 75 | series NIS 20 | per session
 Non-Members NIS 100 | NIS 30 | (with reservations)
 At the door: Members NIS 25 - Non-Members NIS 35
 Chairwomen
 Judy Clark * Helen Gross * Rita Newman * Sharon Rabinowitz

BE YOUR OWN DRESSMAKER & DESIGNER... WEAR FINE CLOTHES FOR ONLY THE PRICE OF THE FABRIC
 Save hundreds of dollars on clothes for yourself and your family! Be the envy of your friends and neighbors. You'll soon be making dresses, shirts, skirts, even suits and coats so well that you'll be able to start your own dressmaking business if you wish!
 You train at home... in your spare time. You need no previous experience because experts will guide you every step of the way. Everything is explained in easy-to-understand English with plenty of photos, diagrams and drawings. You read what to do, then follow simple directions that lead you in actual practice. Explanations of advanced tailoring techniques have been simplified with all instructions detailed step by step. So whether you are a beginner or have some knowledge of sewing, everything is easy to do.
 Get started today! Print your name and address in the space provided below and return this ad to ICS. We will rush your FREE information kit to you by return airmail as soon as we receive your inquiry. **There is no obligation.**
 Please send me full details on the ICS Dressmaking & Design Course.
 Please Print
 MR/MRS/MISS _____ AGE _____
 ADDRESS _____ POSTAL CODE _____
 CITY/COUNTRY _____ PHONE _____
 International Correspondence Schools, Dept. F536
 Box 1900, Scranton, PA 18501-1900 USA
 Internet World Wide Web address: <http://www.icscom.com>

The Light Opera Group of the Negev
 presents
FIDDLER ON THE ROOF
 In English with Hebrew supertitles
 Beer-Sheva
 February 22, March 17 & 18, Mo'et-Hechal Haotzrut
 Logon: 07-421120
 Jerusalem
 February 28, Jerusalem Theater
 Eumash: 02-639663/812859
 02-635683/813543
 Haifa
 March 3, Haifa Auditorium
 Rosa Bloch: 04-8251475
 Netanya
 March 4, Hechal Haotzrut
 Combined Chambers: 09-623477/614607
 Tel Aviv
 March 11, Noga Theater
 HOB: 03-6419788/9336447
 08-9461385
 All performances start at 20:30
 Further information: LOGON 07-421120

UNIVERSITY STUDENTS
ULPAN AKIVA NETANYA offers you a unique summer or winter study vacation in Israel.
 Flexible Hebrew or Arabic courses on all levels open once a month. University students as well as families or individuals of all ages - Jews and non-Jews - come to our seaside campus from all over the world. They live and study together with Israelis and immigrants, with students from all walks of life representing all people of the region.
 They are joining a learning community who choose from courses lasting 20, 12, 8 or 3 weeks with 5 hours of classes a day, loads of social and cultural activities during the remaining hours of the day and evening, plus tours and special Shabbat activities.
 Ulpán Akiva courses are accredited by several universities.
 GROUP RATES AVAILABLE
 For a free brochure:
 ULPAN AKIVA, Tel. 09-352312 (Sun. - Thurs. 9:00 - 2:00)
 Fax: 09-652919, POB 6086, 42160 Netanya, Israel

YESHIVA UNIVERSITY ISRAELI ALUMNI
Yeshiva University High School for Girls, Brooklyn (Central) Alumnae
 are cordially invited to a **Reunion**
 to be held at Beit Knesset Yeshurun
 King George St. (corner Shmuel Hanagid), Jerusalem
 on **Sunday, February 25, 1996 at 7:00 p.m.**
 Bring your yearbooks, memorabilia and, above all, your memories. We look forward to seeing you.
 Business from NIS 15
 E.S.V.P. Mrs. Halperin, 02-660812
 CAROLINE AND JOSEPH S. GRUBBS INSTITUTE
 P.O.S. 18098, Jerusalem, Israel 91160 • Tel. (02) 431 988, Fax. (02) 422 659

Don't forget them
 Actual length 10 cms.
 Your keys and a Hebrew prayer for a safe journey. Always with you on this solid SILVER KEY RING NIS 50 plus NIS 10 p/p per order
AN UNFORGETTABLE GIFT
 orders to **ATLAS Ltd.**
 Toll free orders 177-022-3585.
 or send your check to: Atlas Ltd. 51 Tchelnov Street Tel Aviv 66048. Tel. 03-6888407 Fax. 03-6882102
A Special Offer for readers of THE JERUSALEM POST

British make dramatic about-turn over library

Ten days ago the British Council announced its closure in west Jerusalem. Now they say it was all a 'misunderstanding,' Tom Gross reports



A visitor browses at the British Council Library. Over 50 percent of its members are native Hebrew speakers. (Brian Henders)

'Correct decision' ... finally

Greville Janner, the British member of parliament who originally protested the decision to close the British Council library in west Jerusalem, told *The Jerusalem Post* that he was "delighted" with the new decision. "I had told the Foreign Office minister responsible, Jeremy Handley, that I couldn't think of a worse place or time to close a British Council operation. "The protests and the publicity that ensued have produced exactly the results they should do in a democracy." Janner said he had received many letters and faxes from both Britain and Israel. "The nicest one was from a member of the Jerusalem City Council. She sent me a drawing of the library by her nine-year-old daughter saying, 'Please don't close.'" Janner implied that the official line that it had all been a misunderstanding by Harley Brookes was patently nonsense. "It would be absolutely unique for a British Council director to announce the closure of an operation he runs without first being clearly told from London it was closing. "The government has obviously reconsidered and now come to the correct decision." T.G.

The announcement on Wednesday that the British Council (BC) library in west Jerusalem was, after all, to remain open was greeted with shouts of joy and enormous sighs of relief by anxious members previously in despair at the thought of its imminent closure. But the official British Foreign Office line that the original decision to close had all been nothing but a mere "misunderstanding" was greeted with ridicule by those who believed political motivations lay behind the move. There had been nothing ambiguous about the statement headed "Closure" which was released just one week earlier, on February 6, and handed out to members. The director of the Tel Aviv head office, Harley Brookes, wrote he "very much [regretted] to give the sad news that, owing to the very serious financial cuts that have been imposed on us from London, the British Council library in Jerusalem will cease to function from March 4th, 1996." Expressions of profound disappointment followed this statement. Member Natasha Lehrer, a CD-ROM producer, summed up the feelings of many. "I'm devastated," she said. But feelings of despair quickly turned to anger, as shocked members telephoned each other to discuss the news. While it was true that harsh worldwide financial cuts - representing 17 percent of its annual budget - had been imposed on the BC from London, that the offices and libraries in Nazareth, Nablus, Gaza and - most significantly - in east Jerusalem, would not, it seemed, be closing, led many to

conclude that not only financial but also political motivations lay behind the decision. One distraught reader said out loud in the library, "I think it's an anti-Jewish move," and a staff member nodded in agreement. These suspicions were further fueled by the seeming suddenness of the decision (a library staff member said it came as a "bolt from the blue") and the fact it would be shutting down outright, without exploring other ways of saving money or finding alternative sources of income. If Israel's capital is a highly sensitive political and diplomatic issue at the best of times, it will be especially so in the coming months. The British decision is in marked contrast to the decision of the American Cultural Center, which, having had federal budget cuts imposed on them, last December closed their Tel Aviv but not their Jerusalem branch. Questions were also raised as to why the BC's third branch within the Green Line was located in Nazareth, home to a large Arab population, rather than in other larger towns such as Beersheba or Haifa. The decision certainly "smells bad," said one prominent British-born Israeli. "At a time when British relations toward Israel are meant to be warming, people are asking if this is how we are to be rewarded for a peace process that has made us feel more and more vulnerable." That the branch in east Jerusalem is in fact run under a separate organizational and budgetary structure, not connected to Tel Aviv, and the Nazareth office is principally a teaching and

information center, without a library, did nothing to allay suspicions and diminish the vehemence of the ensuing protests. The British government was clearly stunned by the outpouring of protest that followed, which went well beyond Jerusalem's British and anglophile communities. The faxes went flying, not just to Brookes and British Ambassador David Manning, but to BC director-general Sir John Hanson in London, and to MPs from Liskeard, Cornwall, to Liverpool. The story was even mentioned on Sky News. In Britain, questions were raised on the floor of the House of Commons. Labor MP Greville

Janner, a well-known advocate for Israel, called the decision "mean and inappropriate." Ulster Unionist MP the Rev. Martin Smyth also protested the decision in the Commons and complaints were made by members of the Board of Deputies of British Jews. Many people here phoned and wrote to *The Jerusalem Post* all lamenting the closure. Seldom can such expressions of emotion and howls of protest been evoked over the closure of what is, relatively speaking, a smallish foreign-language library located in on a quiet, leafy street in the capital's Baka neighborhood. On February 8, two days after the original notice, a new statement was handed out, saying that no decision had yet been made and "the information conveyed" in the previous statement had been based on a "misunderstanding." Then, last Wednesday, a new statement was issued. It was to be business as usual. The library would remain open for at least another year and no cuts would be made for the time being. Brookes had little choice but to toe the line. "I completely deny any political element in the decision. It's all been a misunderstanding," he told the *Post*. But such diplomatic doublespeak fooled few. The BC, the cultural arm of the Foreign Office, is regarded by

many as a very effective arm of national propaganda, for what is, all said and done, a relatively low budget. It tends to create sympathetic feelings toward Britain, resulting in all sorts of positive economic and cultural benefits which are cost-effective in a way you can't quite quantify. Nor does it only serve the needs of expat Britons. Over 50 percent of members in Jerusalem are native Hebrew speakers, including several prominent local politicians and academics. It seems that by reversing the closure decision, the British have reassessed the importance of having a BC presence in west Jerusalem. And even if they won't

admit that it was after all a genuine change of heart, the British no doubt deserve some praise for reconsidering the matter. "Israel is now a top-priority country for Britain in all shapes and forms," Brookes told the *Post* yesterday.

Today's edition of 'Davar': Is this the final issue?

It looks like the end of the road for the newspaper wrongly dubbed 'the Israeli Pravda'. Michal Yudelman reports

JUST after midnight, the ancient doors of an old building on the corner of Sheinkin and Melchett streets creaked on their hinges and slammed shut. This will almost certainly bring to an end 70 years of press history. Barring any last-minute miracle, *Davar* - *Davar Rishon* for the past eight months - will have shut. This time, judging by the tired faces in the shabby building which had become much more than a mere workplace, no deus ex machina was expected to descend from on high. "The dice," said one journalist, sadly, as she packed her personal stuff, "were loaded from the start." A year and a half ago the Histadrut's new leadership decid-

ed to close *Davar* in line with the "new Histadrut's" policy that a labor federation should not own companies. *Davar's* journalists gritted their teeth, dug their heels in and fought on, heroically and against all odds. But it was a battle lost before it began. The workers could not find a private financial backer for the newspaper and the Histadrut cut its financial pipeline. It was a death sentence deferred. Efraim Davidi, the journalists' union chairman, is clear what it means: "We are developing into a cynical society in which anything which isn't profitable doesn't have a right to exist." On Monday, June 1, 1925 the first



'Davar' employee Mazal examines a copy in the archives. (Israel Sam)

The Italian Trade Commission in Tel Aviv
in cooperation with **The Israel Manufacturers' Association**
and **The Israel Textile Association**
is organizing a **SYMPOSIUM**
on **ADVANCED TECHNOLOGIES AND INNOVATIONS IN THE ITALIAN TEXTILE MACHINERY INDUSTRY**
on **February 29, 1996, at 9 a.m.**
at the **Hilton Hotel, Tel Aviv**
Highlights:
* Technologies and machines in the spinning, weaving and non-woven sectors.
* Technologies and machines in the (flat and circular) knitting and hosiery sectors.
* Technologies and machines in the dyeing, printing and finishing sectors.
The Italian textile machinery industry is one of the most advanced in the world and manufactures the widest range of machines, accessories and plants for every textile processing sector (spinning, weaving, knitting, hosiery, dyeing, printing, finishing, non-woven) and for every kind of fiber: cotton, linen and other vegetable fibers; wool, silk and synthetic fibers.
Thanks to the short geographical distance between the two countries and their deep historical links, they have established good relationships in regard to assembly, technical support, training of technicians, feasibility studies and design in the textile industry.
Pre-registration and other information may be obtained by applying to:
The Italian Trade Commission
The Tower Building
3 Daniel Frisch St.
Tel Aviv 64731
Tel. 03-6918130/9
Fax. 03-6962812

edition of *Davar* - "The Newspaper of the workers of Eretz Yisrael" - hit the newsstands. The editor-in-chief was Berl Katznelson. *Davar* was the newspaper of the Labor Movement, a large circle encompassing almost all the nation's leaders and statesmen. Its subscribers included the kibbutzim, Histadrut bodies and members, and all the country's leaders. The finest writers and poets, from Nathan Alterman to S.Y. Agnon and Uri Zvi Grinberg wrote for it. Its editorials and columnists were quoted everywhere. *Davar* faithfully reflected the positions of the Labor movement and the heads of the new Jewish settlements, and its prestige and influence were unequalled from the 1930s to the 1950s. But the '60s saw the emergence of a new generation which was tired of the paper's didactic tone and its identification with the ruling establishment. In 1969 it still had 175,000 readers, but by then most of them were complimentary subscribers. Only 35,000 copies were paid for. Gradually *Davar* lost popularity. It was never what anyone might call a "profit-making" organization, and as the advertisers moved off to other newspapers, *Davar* started to lose money. The Histadrut set up a committee to work out a recovery plan, but in reality it did nothing to revamp the style, or manage it more efficiently, or adjust it to changing Israeli society. All it did was to reduce *Davar's* budget and pay its debts at the end of each year. By the '90s, *Davar's* readers had dwindled to a few thousand and the Histadrut leaders lost interest in it. When Haim Ramon took the Histadrut by storm in 1994, he saw the way clear to close down what was become not only a money-loser, but another symbol of the old and dying Histadrut like the red flag and socialist values. As far as Ramon - and much of the public - was concerned, *Davar* was still a political newspaper laying down the party line, and its day was done. Ramon and the new leadership,

with the election slogan of bringing "new life" to the Histadrut, brought mostly death. *Davar* was one of the casualties. In fact, *Davar* was nothing like its staid "party-line" image. *Yediot Aharonot* columnist Nahum Barnea wrote this week: "For 15 years I worked for *Davar*. The newspaper was a wonderful school for free journalism, journalism without any real fear of landlord or owner. "Davar was never an airy newspaper, one to take to the beach in summer. There were newspapers which were more modern and richer. But facts had a meaning in *Davar*. So did language. So did culture. The newspaper had much of

the smell of this country. Regrettably, this country has lost its smell to television game shows." *Davar* columnist Teddy Preuss also wrote in *Yediot Aharonot* this week: "When I was invited in 1962 to write for *Davar*, I hesitated: would I be able to adjust to the Israeli *Pravda*? When I decided to do so anyway, I soon learned how wrong I had been. Nobody asked what my party affiliation was, and even so-called heretical essays were published." Ramon suddenly found himself facing off against a determined action committee. Headed by Davidi, Yael Fishbein, Amir Neuman and others, *Davar* fought tooth and nail to find the paper a life-support system. They formed an action committee which lobbied tirelessly for the Histadrut to let them operate and manage the newspaper, a revolutionary concept never tried in Israel. At the same time they hunted down potential private investors who might buy part of the newspaper's shareholding. After a few months, Ramon realized that closing down a spirited newspaper might not look so good on his public resume. Along with his colleagues in the Histadrut leadership, MKs Amir Peretz and Haim Oron, he agreed to let the journalists try to operate and manage their own newspaper. With new editor-in-chief Ron Ben-Yishai - one of Israel's most talented journalists - at the helm, *Davar* received a facelift, a new format, and a new name: *Davar Rishon*.

In less than a year, *Davar Rishon* doubled the number of paying subscribers. It was predicted to break even in another year. *Davar Rishon* came close to accomplishing the impossible and proving that a group of journalists could not only put out their own newspaper, but do it well on a balanced budget. *Davar Rishon's* executive committee made these commitments to the Histadrut: to avoid dismissing journalists, to employ most of the defunct *Al Hamishmar's* journalists, to revamp the newspaper, and to find private financial backing to replace the Histadrut. All commitments but the crucial last one were met. Private investors were not exactly standing in line outside the decrepit doors of the old-new newspaper. Intensive negotiations with businessman Jean Friedman and Leon Charney ended in failure. As the December 31 deadline approached, the Histadrut refused to renew its financial support. Ben-Yishai doesn't blame anybody for the newspaper's demise. "It's a tragedy with no villain," he said. Davidi disagrees. The Histadrut, which shamelessly demands that private employers lay aside calculations of profit and maintain order to support the workers' livelihoods, refused to apply the principle to its own company, *Davar Rishon*.

"In the case of Ouman, the textile plant in Ofakim, the Histadrut set up a battle headquarters to obtain production orders," he said. "We asked for no more than they did for Ouman." The government supports losing enterprises with millions of dollars, to prevent unemployment, Davidi said. Only recently, it gave the foreign Intel company \$500 million to build a plant in Kiryat Gat to encourage employment. "There are governments which support newspapers directly, like Austria, which pays an annual \$33 million to non-profitable publications, just to ensure they maintain their high standards. "The veteran newspaper *Die Zeit*, for which Theodor Herzl used to write, gets a \$3.5 million annual subsidy. France subsidizes newspapers whose subscribers number less than 100,000. These include the religious *La Croix* and the communist *L'Humanité*, supported in the name of media pluralism," Davidi said. *Davar Rishon*, which employs 200 workers, was asking for only \$4 million. "Davar is the only newspaper in Israel which protects workers' rights and is sensitive to social issues and values, something nobody expects of Nimrod and Moses [the families which own *Ma'ariv* and *Yediot Aharonot*, respectively]. "But the government of Israel believes that a newspaper which isn't making money has no right to exist," Davidi said. "Today there are only four Hebrew newspapers left, three of them privately owned by three families. By the end of the week *Davar* will close. There will be only three."

The In Jerusalem Supplement
Ba'kehila
(formerly "Religious Life in Jerusalem")
will appear on **March 15, 1996 (before Pessah)**
with the Friday Jerusalem Post, in the Greater Jerusalem area.
There will be a second, separate distribution in ten religious neighborhoods.
ADVERTISERS!
Reach all segments of the religious community by advertising your course, service or business.
For rates, special discounts and information please contact:
David Rotenberg at 02-315630/642; Fax: 02-388408.
(or the JP Advertising Dept: 02-315639/640)
Deadline for write-ups: February 28; for ads: March 3, 1996.

Jerusalem

Bias is chronic at 'The Economist'

EYE ON THE MEDIA DAVID BAR-ILLAN

LAST week's column focused on the two recent stories about Israel and the Palestinians in The Economist...

...The piece also castigates Israel yet again for closing her borders in the aftermath of the Hebron massacre...

to understand it. Further examples: Your report on the Afula terror attack in April 1994 that killed seven and maimed dozens...

implied in kidnappings, killings and torture of Arabs, a phenomenon that greatly threatens the stability of the autonomous areas...

a pro-Israel lobby. The Economist is a news weekly eager for a durable peace and for justice - without which there will be no peace - in the Middle East...

land and oppressed by Israel rather than as a spearhead of an Arab world bent on Israel's destruction. If he is different it is because he so consistently treats other "liberation movements" with none of the sympathy he lavishes on the Palestinians...

When the news media act as partners in the debate

THE major, probably the sole, beneficiaries of a bill now before the Knesset will be the coalition parties...

A VIEW FROM NOV MOSHE KOHN Sunday, November 5, featured 12 "political" participants identified with Labor and other left-wing parties...

February 22 and March 8 and during all of July. It published its findings, prepared by Medad and Media Watch co-founder and chairman Prof. Eli Pollack...



Spousal love is a direct result of parental love

"And if a man sell his daughter to be a maidservant, she shall not go out as the menservants do. If she please not her master, who has not espoused her to himself, then shall he let her be redeemed; to sell her unto foreign people he shall have no power...

SHABBAT SHALOM SHLOMO RISKIN feeding one's children was a major challenge. "Selling" them as apprentices was a way of teaching them a trade and being relieved of having to support them...

husband toward his wife from this particular context is a logical extension of everything we have been saying. If indeed she is married by her employer, he must understand that she is his wife and not his servant...

social and economic advancement in what had always been a static society. THERE is yet another human lesson in linking marital obligations to the limitations of parental control...

Taking care of the elderly, children and new immigrants

FUNDS BEVERLEE BLACK I'm not writing my weekly appeal from my usual place, my desk. I'm writing this in bed...

people living on their own in cold, substandard housing, subsisting on bread and milk, with arthritic bones and bad teeth...

them down. Please send your contributions to: The Jerusalem Post Funds, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000.

NIS 250 Esac International Ltd., Tel Aviv. NIS 200 in honor of the 100th birthday of our cousin Sarah Shapira...

NIS 250 For Reuben Rose (21) on his seventh yahrzeit. NIS 10 E. Rosenstein, Netanya. NIS 10 E. Anon.

Deriving the obligations of a husband toward his wife from this particular context is a logical extension of everything we have been saying...

WELCOME HOME FUND NIS 250 For Reuben Rose (21) on his seventh yahrzeit. NIS 300 On the yahrzeit of our sister Judith Horowitz.

Key Representative Rates
Change
US dollar ... NIS 3.1070 -0.19%

NEW STOCK MARKETS
New York market indexes
Last Change

Other stock market indexes
Last Change
NYSE 100 279.88 +0.42

Israeli stocks in NY
Last Change
Amir 38.75 +0.8

LIBOR RATES
Last Change
3 months 4.45

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

US commodities
Last Change
Cocoa Mar (ICE) 124.00 +1.00

London commodities
Last Change
Cocoa Mar (ICE) 124.00 +1.00

Spot market metals (US)
Last Change
Gold spot 371.00 +1.00

New York metal futures
Last Change
Gold Mar 371.00 +1.00

London metal futures
Last Change
Gold Mar 371.00 +1.00

Currency cross-rates (US)
Last Change
Dollar 1.00

LIBOR RATES
Last Change
3 months 4.45

Foreign financial data courtesy of
CommStock Trading Ltd.
Futures, Options, Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds

US commodities
Last Change
Cocoa Mar (ICE) 124.00 +1.00

London commodities
Last Change
Cocoa Mar (ICE) 124.00 +1.00

Spot market metals (US)
Last Change
Gold spot 371.00 +1.00

New York metal futures
Last Change
Gold Mar 371.00 +1.00

London metal futures
Last Change
Gold Mar 371.00 +1.00

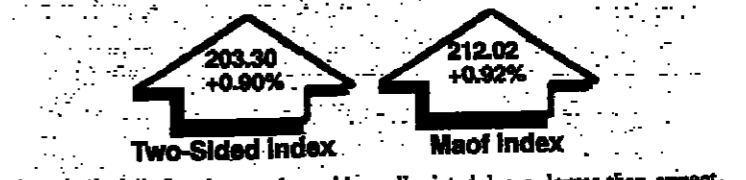
TEL AVIV STOCKS

Multi-sided trading Two-sided trading

Table with columns: Name, Price, Change, % Change, Volume, Pct. Change, % Volume. Lists various Israeli stocks like Amir, Bank Leumi, etc.

TASE rises on last day of a down week

TEL AVIV STOCK MARKET



STOCKS fell for the week amid concern inflation is rising, prompting worry the Bank of Israel will raise interest rates.
Yesterday's gains came after Biocraft Laboratories announced it had received US Food and Drug Administration approval to manufacture a generic drug version of high blood pressure medication Captopril.

FTSE 100 ends close to all-time high

WORLD MARKET ROUNDUP

LONDON (Reuters) - Corporate activity helped lift the FTSE 100 to close to its previous all-time high levels yesterday, aided by inflation data which kept hopes alive of another cut in UK interest rates in the short term.
FRANKFURT - Shares closed little changed showing little reaction to the Bundesbank keeping a firm hand on its key discount and Lombard rates.

ISRAEL DISCOUNT BANK

INTERNATIONAL STOCK PRICES

Table with columns: Name, Price, Chg, Name, Price, Chg, Name, Price, Chg, Name, Price, Chg. Lists international stocks from various countries.

Handwritten signature: JALICO LTD

Solidity. Integrity. And value for money.

Quality international packing and shipping of fine arts and household effects at its best and most reliable for almost 50 years.

BAUMER & NISSEL
B&M
ISRAELI

Tel Aviv: 03-6477676
Jerusalem: 02-639004

V.G. VAYER GROUP LTD.

PACKING & SHIPPING BY V.G.

ISRAEL'S FINEST SINCE 1948

Tel Aviv: 03-6810273/5, 6838335, 6829933
Vayer - Los Angeles: 1 (818) 771 1111

- Personal effects
- Fine Arts/Antiques
- Electronic Equipment
- Our own Warehouses
- Customs Clearance
- Door to Door Service - Insured - Worldwide

THE JERUSALEM QUALITY POST CLASSIFIEDS

Ads accepted at offices The Jerusalem Post (see masthead), and all recognized advertising agencies.

Mail this coupon to us with payment enclosed. (minimum 10 words)

COUPON SPECIAL 10% OFF

ONE TIME insertion
 3 TIMES
 6 TIMES
 FULL WEEK
 No. of words: _____
 Starting Date: _____
 AMOUNT: NIS _____ Rates: _____
 See rates below and if you use this coupon deduct 10%
 Classification: _____ Geographical Area: _____
 No refunds for early cancellation of series.
 TEXT: _____

Name: _____ Address: _____
 City: _____ Phone: _____ Credit Card: _____ No. _____
 Expiry date: _____ ID No. _____
 Please send receipt Signature: _____

MAIL TO: ADS COUPON SPECIAL, P.O. Box 81, Jerusalem 91000

OMEGA OVERSEAS CO.

International Household Removers

DOOR TO DOOR WORLDWIDE

- Free storage
- All risk insurance
- Export packing and crating

WE CARRY WITH CARE

USA: N.Y. 1 (718) 937 9797
L.A. 1 (310) 432-6455
Miami 1 (305) 477 0030
U.K.: London 81.5 913 434

Tel. 03-6819562
03-6819563

GLOBUS INTERNATIONAL MOVERS

ASK FOR OUR SPECIAL DEALS FOR JAN./FEB.

TOLL FREE 177-022-7272

WE SPECIALIZE IN:

- Personal effects antiques and fine art
- Export packing & crating
- All risk marine insurance
- Free Estimate
- Door to door service
- All import services
- Storage

Tel: 03-9613148 Fax: 03-9610566

T.D.Y.

DOOR TO DOOR HOUSEHOLD REMOVERS

- FREE ESTIMATES - FREE STORAGE - WEEKLY SAILINGS

CALL NOW TOLL FREE 177-022-1407

ASK ABOUT OUR SPECIAL WINTER DISCOUNTS
MEMBER OF THE ZIM GROUP

TEL: 03-558 2424 • 04-8621137

GAMMA SHIPPING (ISRAEL), INC.

LOS ANGELES 213-244-2444 MIAMI 305-888-0337 NEW YORK 718-937-9797

RATES

PRICES ARE AS FOLLOWS - All rates include VAT:

- Single Weekly - NIS 90.45 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word NIS 9.94
- FRIDAY AND HOLIDAY EVE - NIS 152.10 10 words (minimum), each additional word NIS 15.21
- MONDAY, WEDNESDAY AND FRIDAY (package) - NIS 234.00 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 23.40
- WEEK RATE (6 insertions) - NIS 315.90 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 31.59
- FOUR FRIDAYS (package) - NIS 409.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 40.95
- MONTHLY (24 insertions) - NIS 643.50 for 10 words (minimum), each additional word - NIS 64.35

Rates are valid until 31.5.96.

DEADLINES offices:
Jerusalem - weekdays: 12 noon the day before publication; for Friday and Sunday: 6 p.m. on Thursday.
Tel Aviv and Haifa - weekdays: 12 noon, 2 days before publication; for Friday and Sunday: 4 p.m. Thursday in Tel Aviv and 12 noon Thursday in Haifa.

DWELLINGS

General

EXCHANGE

MANHATTAN: 1 BEDROOM, West 78th Street, exchange - Jerusalem, Passover. 02-634837.

TORONTO, CANADA, DR.'S home, 400 sq.m. in Jewish area. Rent or Exchange (Jerusalem). Summer 1995 for one year. Fax: (905)738-8622 Tel. (905)738-5058.

KIRYAT TIVON

KIRYAT TIVON LARGE VILLA
Special, 7 rooms (inc. 2 suites) plus additional unit in yard, covered parking, level one-acre plot, fully landscaped, \$520,000. Tel. 04-9800876.

RENTALS

SENIOR CITIZENS HOME - Migdalel Yam Hachichon in Kiryat Saba, 2 large rooms. Tel. 02-222507.

WHERE TO STAY

INN PLACES LTD. affordable home bed & breakfast, self-catering appts, country-wide, choice locations. Tel/Fax 09-578204, P.O.B. 577, Herzliya.

JERUSALEM LODGES LTD. Short term rentals * Bed and breakfast * P.O. Box 4233, Jerusalem 91044. Tel. 02-611745, Fax: 02-618541.

DWELLINGS

Outside Israel

EXCHANGE

CONDOMINIUM IN BROOKLINE, MA for an apartment/house in Panama from August. Call Ellen 03-5498153

HOLIDAY RENTALS

HOLIDAY APARTMENTS IN EUROPE, main cities, luxury holiday resorts. Ideal for families. Tel/Fax 02-787682.

WHERE TO STAY

GOING TO LONDON?

Then why not stay at **ENDSLEIGH COURT**, where you can be sure of a friendly and courteous welcome.

Our block is centrally situated, and offers self-contained studio apartments with fully equipped kitchen and bathroom.

January 1996 - March 1996 from £305* per week
April 1996 - September 1996 from £357* per week

A limited number of one and two bedroom apartments are available.

For further details, contact:
Endsleigh Court
24 Upper Woburn Place
London WC1H 0HA
Tel: 0044 171 878 0050
Fax: 0044 171 380 0290

All major credit cards accepted.
*This price includes a separate charge for provision of furnishings.

habitat rentals

LOVELY SHORT-TERM RENTALS from \$1300

RASCO 3, furnished, balconies, great view! \$700

BEIT HAKEREM 3, furnished, quiet, for one year \$800

RECHAVIA 3.5, furnished, excellent condition 1.5 baths, shabbat, elevator, long-term \$950

RECHAVIA 4, unfurn, own heating, storage \$1000

WOLFSON 4, unfurnished, great view, 1/2m \$1200

RAMAT SHARON 6, penthouse, large terrace \$1500

RECHAVIA 4, new! 2 bath, unfurn, garden \$1800

REHABIT 4, VERY LUXURIOUS! fully-furnished private heating, air-conditioning, pool \$3500

tel: 02-611222

Notice To Our Readers

All advertisements published in this newspaper giving prices in dollars are inserted on the sole responsibility of the advertiser.

HI-TECH ELECTRONICS CO. EXPORTING TO USA, EUROPE AND JAPAN HAS

CHALLENGING ENGINEERING (EE/ME) & ADMINISTRATIVE POSITIONS

Call 04-761114 or Fax 04-757890

SITUATIONS VACANT ADVERTISEMENTS

Equal Opportunity in Employment Law, 1988

The law forbids discrimination in the advertising and filling of job vacancies, on grounds of sex, or marital or parental status, except where this is dictated by the nature of the work.

All job advertisements in The Jerusalem Post should be regarded as complying with the provisions of the law.

A new company in Jerusalem requires an Experienced Bilingual Secretary (English mother tongue) for interesting work with nice people. Please fax CV and handwritten letter to 02-371-743

A world-class leader in networking and internetworking solutions is looking for a:

Regional Marketing Manager For India

For a position combining marketing, sales and working closely with our distributors in India.

- Formal education in electronics/computers
- Minimum 2-3 years experience in international marketing in data computers/electronics
- English mother tongue
- MBA - Advantageous
- Willing to travel

Please address all inquiries in writing (and indicate position number) to the Personnel Department, 8 Hanechoset St. Tel Aviv 69710, Israel Fax 03-6475945 Email: michal@radmail.rad.co.il Suitable applications will be replied to. Confidentiality assured.

data communications ltd.

ZIVA

FOR AN AMERICAN INSTITUTE IN ISRAEL WITH A YEARLY TURNOVER OF APPROX. \$10 M

FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION MGR.

- ACADEMIC DEGREE IN FINANCE
- MANAGERIAL EXPERIENCE IN FINANCE & ADMINISTRATION OPERATION
- FAMILIARITY WITH INTERNATIONAL CULTURES
- DIVERSIFIED MANAGERIAL ABILITIES

PLEASE SEND C.V. TO: MASHOV 31 HALECHI ST. Bnei-Brak 51200 38A D'ISRAELI ST. HAIFA 34334

ADMINISTRATIVE ASSISTANT

Experience with Microsoft Word for Windows and Excel or other spreadsheet programs. Well-versed computer user preferred. Full or part-time, flexible hours, no Hebrew necessary. Potential for job advancement and salary growth. Located in Rehavia. Call Daniel at 02-611383.

Kesselman & Kesselman certified public accountants (fsc.) Coopers & Lybrand

Certified public accountants & Accountants serving articles required for our Jerusalem office.

Challenging work with opportunities for advancement.

Willingness to take responsibility required. Experience with a large firm desirable.

Please send resume to P.O.B. 452, Tel Aviv 61003.

Advertising Dept. Direct Lines

TEL AVIV
Tel. 03-6390 333
Fax 03-6390 277

JERUSALEM
Tel. 02-315 608
Fax 02-388 408

WASSMAN'S SCHOOL FOR WRITERS

"EVERYONE HAS AT LEAST ONE BOOK IN HIM/HER"

The workshop will cover Dynamic Novel Outlines, How to Make Your Book a Page-Turner, Getting Started.

Monday, February 19, 1996, 6 p.m. - 8 p.m. Workshop conducted by Dvora Wageman, author of "The Postgraduate President" and the forthcoming "Back of Beyond".

Cost: NIS 70 (inc. VAT and refreshments) 5/5 Eshkol Kamma, Beit Hakerem, Jerusalem 94, Fax: 02-6513096.

DAHAF

AND IN ANY OF THE OTHER 50 DAHAF AGENCIES THROUGH THE COUNTRY

TEL-AVIV TEL-AVIV TEL-AVIV DAHAPHONE

HEAD OFFICE 2 Derech Ben Zvi corner Sderot Yerushalayim-Yefo Tel. 03-5127777

DIZENGOFF 118 Dizengoff St. (Open 24 hours a day) Tel. 03-5239952

ALLENBY 123 Allenby St. (Older Hamoshavot) Tel. 02-5604433

Ade by phone service Tel. 03-5128888

HAIFA 5 Hertzal St. Hadar Ha'carmel Tel. 04-676666

JERUSALEM 43 Jaffa Road Tel. 02-256335

NETANIA 13 Smilansky St. Passage Tefahot Tel. 09-840888

PETAH TIQVA 64 Orlov St. Tel. 03-947111

RISHON LEZION 16 Zabolinsky St. Canyon Lev Rishon Tel. 03-967822

MORE EFFECTIVE CLASSIFIED ADS!

offers free professional service for all categories of classified ads at regular newspaper rates no extra charge!

UK think-tank poll: Jewish identity weakens

One in three Jews no longer belongs to synagogue

LONDON (Reuters) - The first independent Jewish think-tank in Europe launched itself yesterday with a poll showing that almost half of Britain's male Jews are marrying outside their community.

The Institute for Jewish Policy Research said the survey was worrying for the future of the Jewish community, and it planned to take an active role in promoting changes in policies of leaders of the Jewish faith.

Britain has one of the largest Jewish communities in Europe - about 300,000, or half a percent of the population - but the total has fallen by about a quarter since 1945.

The national survey of social and political attitudes of British Jews found that one in three no longer belonged to a synagogue, and more than two-thirds felt equally British and Jewish - or more British than Jewish.

"Years of speculation on these issues have been brought to an end by these findings, and they

are not good news for the maintenance of Jewish identity," said the institute's executive director, Antony Lerman. "Those who wish to preserve Jewishness and continuity must now realize that the time for softly, softly approaches to demands for pluralism and inclusivism has passed."

A spokesman for Britain's chief rabbi, Dr. Jonathan Sacks, said the survey "represents an enormous challenge to the community."

The poll, questioning over 2,100 people throughout Britain, found that 44 percent of Jewish men under the age of 40 were married to or living with non-Jewish partners.

This compared with 20 percent for the 60 to 70 age group and 20 to 25 percent for Jewish women.

The report said intermarriage was seen as one of the main reasons for Jewish demographic decline.

The report's co-author, Stephen Miller, dean of Social Sciences at London's City University,

said the figures were worrying for maintaining "the integrity of the community."

He told a news conference that they were not far from "the shock USA statistic of around 52 percent which caused British and American Jews to think about the nature of their future."

"Jews are becoming more ethnic and less religious in observance," Miller said. But a large number of those who married outside the faith were keen to keep a Jewish identity.

"While one-third do not belong to a synagogue, many maintain their identity in other ways - they hold ceremonies without ritual; they practice but don't believe," the institute said.

Around 60 percent of respondents favored the Israeli government's approach to peace in the Middle East, compared with 68 percent of American Jews, and 69 percent felt that Israel should give up some land in exchange for peace.

Helmets increase bikers' safety

JUDY SIEGEL

A GOVERNMENT educational campaign aimed at encouraging bicycle riders to wear safety helmets increased the percentage of helmet wearers from 7.9% to only 14.8%. Officials in the Health Ministry's health education department now think a law is needed to induce more cyclists to don the protective gear.

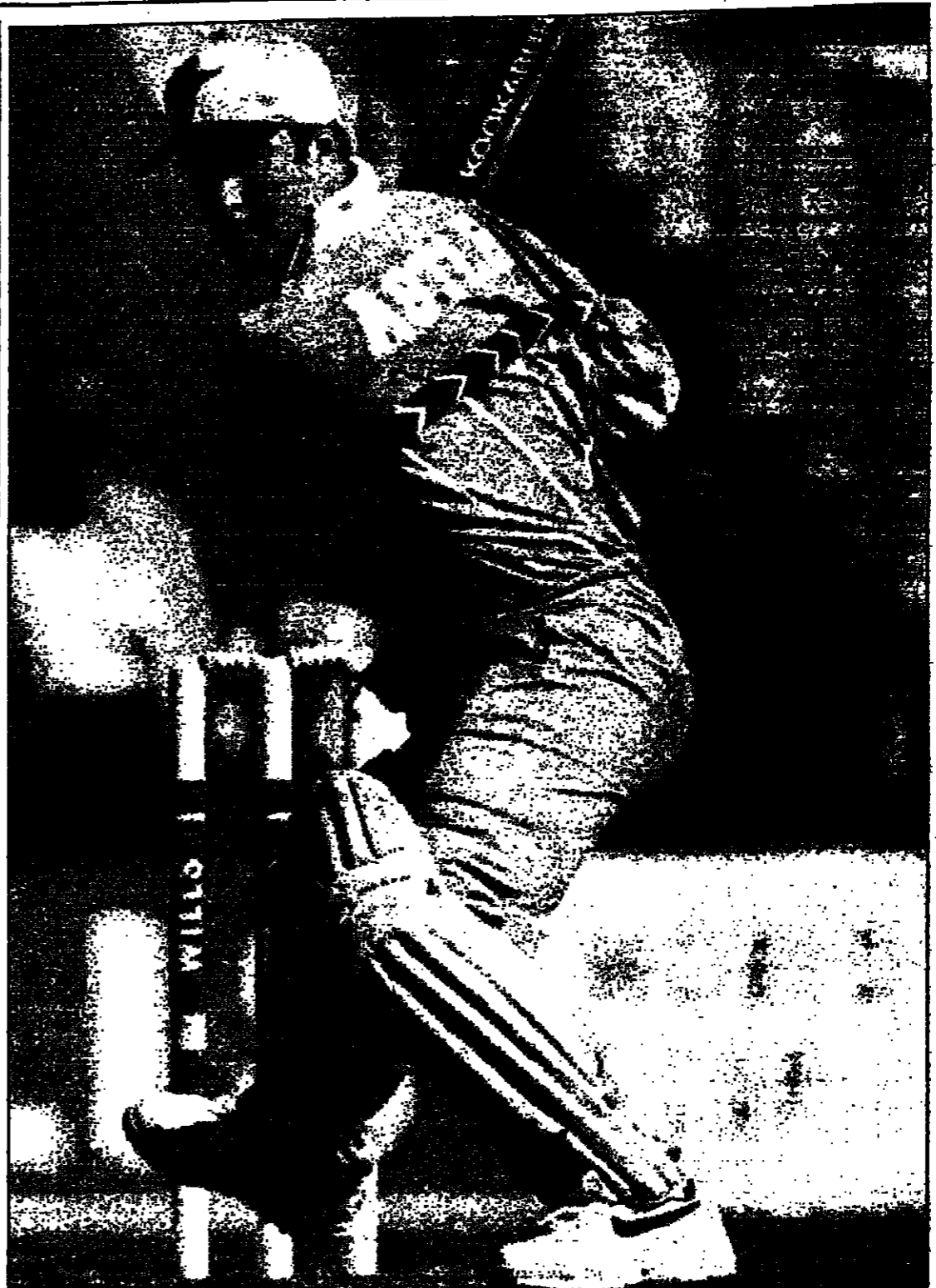
Department head Dr. Dov Tamir, who co-wrote an article about his survey of helmet use among cyclists in the February issue of the *Israel Journal of Medical Science*, said yesterday he will pursue the legislation option in the coming months.

"In other countries, mandatory helmet laws have followed educational campaigns by a couple of years, but it would be a shame to wait for more youngsters to be injured," he said. "The upcoming elections complicates the matter, as MKs may be busy campaigning, but we hope to be able to explain the importance of such legislation."

An average of 20 Israelis are killed in bicycle accidents each year. About 1,000 are reported injured, 200 seriously and 800 mildly injured. Wearing a suitable helmet has been proven to reduce the risk of head injuries, which are the main type of bicycle-related damage.

After sending out observers to count how many cyclists in 15 towns wore helmets two years ago, the ministry and the Road Safety Administration launched a campaign of radio jingles, stickers, and newspaper ads costing a few hundred thousand shekels (only a small part of it covered by the ministry).

The percentage of riders observed with helmets after the campaign doubled to an average of 14.9%.



HERE COMES TROUBLE - New Zealand batsman Nathan Astle is just one of the many obstacles Holland faces tomorrow. (Reuters)

Jordan, Kuwait move toward reconciliation

AMMAN (AP) - Kuwait and Jordan have moved closer toward resuming normal ties, which were severely strained over Amman's pro-Iraq tilt during the 1990-91 Gulf crisis, a cabinet official said yesterday.

Information Minister Marwan Mousasher said a letter sent by Kuwait's Crown Prince Sheikh Saad Abdullah Sabah to his Jordanian counterpart reflected a change in attitude toward Jordan, whose previous efforts to recon-

cile with the Gulf emirate had been snubbed.

Prince Hassan, the King Hussein's younger brother and heir apparent, received the letter Wednesday.

"The letter definitely indicated a real intention by the Kuwaitis to resume normal relations with Jordan," Mousasher told The Associated Press.

The letter was termed "very positive."

He said the leadership in Ku-

wait "thinks that it is time to restore Arab solidarity."

Kuwait and other Arab countries ostracized Jordan when King Hussein opposed the use of military force to evict his then closest ally, Saddam Hussein, from the Gulf emirate he invaded in August 1990.

On Sunday, King Hussein made his first official visit to Saudi Arabia in five years.

On his return, the king said that relations were back on track.

ATLAS Ltd. A Special Offer for readers of **THE JERUSALEM POST**

Daily Blood Pressure Readings: A vital step towards "Healthy" Values

- High blood pressure is today's most widely spread ailment
- High blood pressure is usually not recognized as such, since there are usually no symptoms
- Prevention and treatment are crucial

We offer Automatic Wrist Blood Pressure Monitor For home and personal use

- Fully Automatic**
The wrist cuff inflates by pushing the START button. The unit automatically deflates when measurement is completed.
- Easy Wrist Measurement**
Wrist measurement is convenient and easy to use because it is not necessary to roll up your sleeve or clothing.
- User Memory System**
The memory system allows up to 2 users to store readings in the memory. Each user can store 14 readings. Each memory shows month/date/hour/minute to tell you when the measurement was taken.
- Fuzzy Logic**
No preset pressure level required: This unit will pump up to required pressure level automatically



American Food and Drug Administration (F.D.A.) approval number K940620

For orders please call Atlas Ltd. 51 Tchenov St., Tel Aviv 66048 P.O.B. 35138 Tel Aviv 61351 Tel. 03-6888407 Fax. 03-6882192 Toll Free 177 022 3585 Allow 14 days delivery	MONEY BACK GUARANTEE Product can be returned within 30 days if undamaged and in the original packaging	*Can also be paid in NIS42.12 x 12 installments (Interest rate 28.6% p.a.)	
	<input type="checkbox"/> My check is enclosed <input type="checkbox"/> Debit my credit card <input type="checkbox"/> Amex. <input type="checkbox"/> Visa <input type="checkbox"/> Diners <input type="checkbox"/> Isracard <input type="checkbox"/> NIS450	Card No. _____ Exp. Date _____ <input type="checkbox"/> 12 X 42.12	
	Name _____ Tel. _____ Date _____	Address _____	
	Signature _____ ID No. _____		

World Cup Dutch debut likely to end in knockout

BARODA, India (Reuters) - The Dutch cricketers' World Cup debut tomorrow will be like "fighting a champion in the ring" and opponents New Zealand are likely to land the knockout punch.

Captain Steven Lubbers' team from the Netherlands faces a New Zealand side who opened the tournament on a high note when it beat England by 11 runs in its Group B match in Ahmedabad on Wednesday.

Lubbers, who has scored more runs in domestic cricket than any other Dutch player, said: "For Holland, it's like fighting a champion in the ring. You pick up the challenge. You are honored."

"We are prepared to give our best. I admit that New Zealand are very young and dangerous," he said ahead of the game in the city of Baroda which is noted for its royal history.

Lubbers said his team's main objective would be to limit New Zealand's scoring "otherwise you will end up chasing a massive total".

The New Zealanders, semifinalists at the last World Cup which they co-hosted with Australia four years ago, were spurred to success in Ahmedabad by a vibrant innings of 101 from opener Nathan Astle.

Glenn Turner, New Zealand's manager, coach and strategist, said: "We were expecting a big score from Nathan Astle and he did not let us down."

Turner said it was a great team effort that restricted England, which finished on 228 for nine in reply to New Zealand's 239 for six.

"The team's fielding lived up to our expectations," Turner added.

New Zealand may rest all-rounder Chris Cairns, who has just recovered from a calf injury, against the Netherlands and include off-spinner and useful batsman Dipak Patel.

Kenya-born Patel is a veteran of three World Cups, whose origins can be traced to the neighboring city of Surat in India's western state of Gujarat.

Get ready for **PURIM** FOR CHILDREN

BOOKS BEYOND TIME: The Book of Esther by David Stern. Light and darkness, exile and redemption, persecution of good, this thought-provoking book is sure to give you the Megillah in the light of biblical parallels. Hardcover, 194pp. JP Price: NIS 52

THE BOOK OF ESTHER: A GLIMPSE BEHIND THE SCENES The Commentary of Rabbi Moshe Alshich on Megillah. Translated by David Honig, this is a clear and readable 16th century commentary on the Book of Esther. Includes Megillah. 2 Hardcover volumes in presentation slipcase. JP Price: NIS 69

To: Books, The Jerusalem Post, POB 81, Jerusalem 91000. Please send me the following PURIM books:

POSTAGE: Please add NIS 5 for 1 book; NIS 10 for 2 or more.

Enclosed is my check payable to The Jerusalem Post or credit card of:

Visa Isc/MCD Diners AmEx

CC No. _____

Name _____ Address _____

City _____ Code _____ ID No. _____

Tel./Fax(day) _____ Signature _____

Handwritten signature or mark at the bottom of the page.

Amir trial judge responds to Aloni

TEL Aviv District Court Judge Edmond Levy, presiding over the trial of Yigal Amir, yesterday responded in court to the criticism of his conduct of the trial by Communications Minister Shulamit Aloni.

"I considered long and hard if it was proper for me to respond," Levy said, "and I came to the conclusion that I would not be true to myself if I did not publicly express my feelings. Honest criticism of the justice system is desirable as a necessary condition for ensuring public faith in the system, a trust without which it has no right to exist.

"But criticism is one thing, and slamming a judge is another. The things that have been said recently are damaging. Even though they may not have been meant that way, they leave the impression that some people are trying to make the judge afraid in order to influence the way the trial is conducted.

EVELYN GORDON and ITIM

"To those people, I want to say that in my eyes the work of a judge is a mission. I cannot accept any attempt to threaten a court, whether it comes from the high and the mighty, or from the man in the street.

"To bring this whole matter to a close, I want to make it clear that I will not change my habits and I will continue to run my courtroom according to the wisdom God has given me and according to the dictates of my conscience. I will not be intimidated."

"I also understand your position to be that if your words were interpreted as an attempt to interfere with the procedures of the trial, you are sorry about this," he concluded.

Meanwhile, Attorney-General Michael Ben-Yair decided not to open criminal proceedings against

Aloni because of her remarks, though he sharply criticized her behavior.

Amir's attorney, Shmuel Fleishman, and MK Shaul Yahalom (National Religious Party) had both asked that Aloni be investigated for possible violations of the *sub judice* laws and contempt of court. However, Ben-Yair noted that the state has generally refrained from indicting people for *sub judice* violations unless their remarks are liable to influence witnesses, which is not the case here.

Furthermore, Ben-Yair said, an explanatory letter which he received from Aloni indicated that she did not intend to either sabotage the court's stature or interfere with its proceedings, and that she was sorry if her words had been interpreted in such a way. Such intent is necessary to convict someone for such a crime, he noted.

Israeli team helps find drug for leukemia cases

JUDY SIEGEL

A NEW drug, developed by Israeli and Canadian researchers and tested on animals, offers hope to children suffering from a type of leukemia that relapses and doesn't respond to any other kind of treatment.

The drug, called AG-490, is meant for young sufferers of acute lymphoblastic leukemia who relapse. About 80 percent of patients with this most common form of childhood cancer can be treated with chemotherapy.

Dr. Alexander Levitski, of the Hebrew University, and Dr. Chaim Roifman, of the Hospital for Sick Children in Toronto, head a team that developed a novel concept in leukemia treatment after looking at the chemical response of cells to JAK-2 protein tyrosine kinase, a signaling protein that becomes acti-

vated in immune system cells of patients having a relapse. The drug blocks the protein from working and causes the affected blood cells to die as they are supposed to.

The joint team tested AG-490 on cell cultures and in mice. The inhibition of JAK-2 was found to selectively block leukemic cell growth by inducing programmed cell death, according to a scientific report on the drug published yesterday in *Nature*.

The researchers, whose work is being funded by the National Cancer Institute and Medical Research Council of Canada and the Sogen company in Redwood, California, said more research is needed to make the drug ready for testing on humans. The patent has been registered by Yissum, the HU's R & D branch.



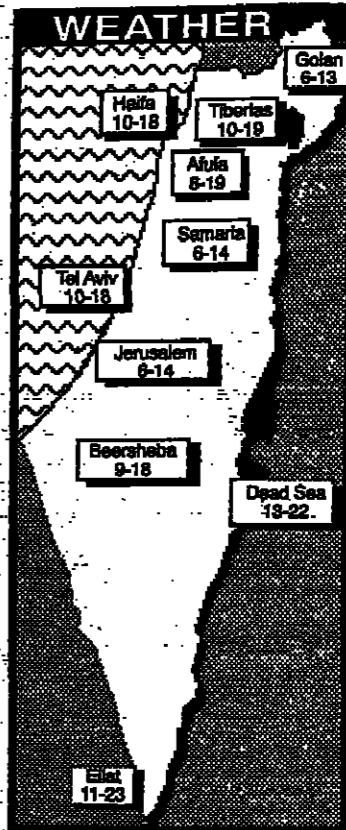
New OC Southern Command Maj-Gen. Shaul Mofaz

Yanai takes over as OC Southern Command

MAJ-GEN. Shlomo Yanai yesterday took over as OC Southern Command, replacing Maj-Gen. Shaul Mofaz, who took over as head of Planning Branch at General Staff Headquarters and will soon join the team negotiating with the Syrians.

Yanai, 44, received the Medal of Valor after being wounded twice in the Yom Kippur War. He served in a variety of Armored Corps commands before taking over the Planning and Armament Division in the Ground Corps Command three-and-a-half years ago. He is a graduate of Tel Aviv University and studied at the National Security College in Washington.

Mofaz, 48, participated in the Entebbe raid, and commanded the officers' school and later a paratroop brigade. He was appointed commander of IDF forces in Judea and Samaria in August 1993, and then served as OC Southern Command for the past 14 months.



AROUND THE WORLD

City	Low	High	Forecast
Amman	10	20	cloudy
Berlin	10	15	cloudy
Bombay	22	30	clear
Calcutta	22	30	clear
Cairo	18	28	clear
Chengde	10	18	clear
Copenhagen	10	18	cloudy
Dhaka	22	30	clear
Hong Kong	18	28	cloudy
London	10	18	cloudy
Los Angeles	14	24	clear
Manila	22	30	clear
Medan	22	30	clear
Moscow	10	18	cloudy
New York	10	18	cloudy
Paris	10	18	cloudy
Rangoon	22	30	clear
Sydney	14	24	clear
Taipei	18	28	clear
Tokyo	10	18	cloudy
Yokohama	10	18	cloudy

NEW

FROM AMERICA AT HYPERCOL AND SUPER-SOL

Great tasting chocolate!

This month's special offer: Buy 1, get the 2nd at 1/2 price

SPECIAL

When you buy Hershey's products: chocolate bars, coconut snacks, cookies, Hugs & Kisses, and more, you'll get the second one at half price*.

**In the same price category*

And another offer:

Buy Hershey chocolate/strawberry syrup or instant chocolate mix in various flavors and get a free Tnuva milk one liter.

FREE

Offer valid until 29.2.96 or while stocks last.

HYPERCOL SUPER-SOL

14 years for double rape

BEHAJEM Mandu, 22, of Beit Jan, who had been convicted of raping two women at knife-point last year, was sentenced to 14 years in prison by the Haifa District Court yesterday.

The court said it is incumbent upon the justice system to hand down deterrent sentences on those convicted of sex crimes in order to discourage violence against women.

ISRAEL'S No. 1

ELDAN ITZIK

FROM \$9 PER DAY EXC. INS. & MILEAGE

CELLULAR PHONE AVAILABLE

BNH GURION AIRPORT: 03-72027/7
TEL AVIV - 172 HADASSAH ST.: 03-527166/7
TEL AVIV - 5 HANASSEN ST.: 03-5294343
JERUSALEM - 24 KING DAVID ST.: 02-523181-3
HEZLITZ: 05-234965/21 & 2121000: 07-727294
HAIFA - CARMEL: 04-3752933 & CHEIKH: 04-410910
BLAU: 07-378227 & BEER SHEVA: 07-420344
ASHDOD: 08-534177 & NETANIM: 09-416982
TIBERIAS: 05-722831 & HERSHOF: 08-462678/9
New El Orida Airport: 05-430771

VALID 15/1/96 - 15/3/96

REGULAR TOURS, HOTELS, PACKAGE DEALS

SEASON'S SPECIAL

To **JORDAN** and **EGYPT**

Exclusive Daily express bus and midnight express to CAIRO and AMMAN

For all information call us: **MAZADA TOURS** THE MIDDLE EAST TRAVEL & TOURISM CO. LTD.

TEL AVIV: 141 Ben Gurion St., Tel. 03-5444454, Fax. 03-5461928
JERUSALEM: 6 Corosh St., Tel. 02-5237777, Fax. 02-5255454
HAIFA: 1 Khayat St., Tel. 04-826440, Fax. 04-8264484
Recorded information: 08-6853888 (24 hours)

STEIMATZKY

INTERNATIONAL BESTSELLERS IN PAPERBACK

<p>SECOND SKIN</p> <p>ERIC LUSTBADER (Harper Collins)</p> <p>34 PRICE NIS</p>	<p>APOCALYPSE WATCH</p> <p>ROBERT LUDLUM (Bantam)</p> <p>36 PRICE NIS</p>
<p>OUR GAME</p> <p>JOHN LE CARRE (Corgo)</p> <p>35 PRICE NIS</p>	<p>BLOOD LINES</p> <p>RUTH RENDELL (Arrow)</p> <p>34 PRICE NIS</p>

STEIMATZKY MEANS BOOKS

Handwritten signature or stamp.